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July 17th, 1975, ISSUE No. 27

PORGY FISHING

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Great South Bay Fluking

SHARK!!!

How-to Catch KINGFISH

Cooking Blues and Stripers

Subscribers! See page 21.

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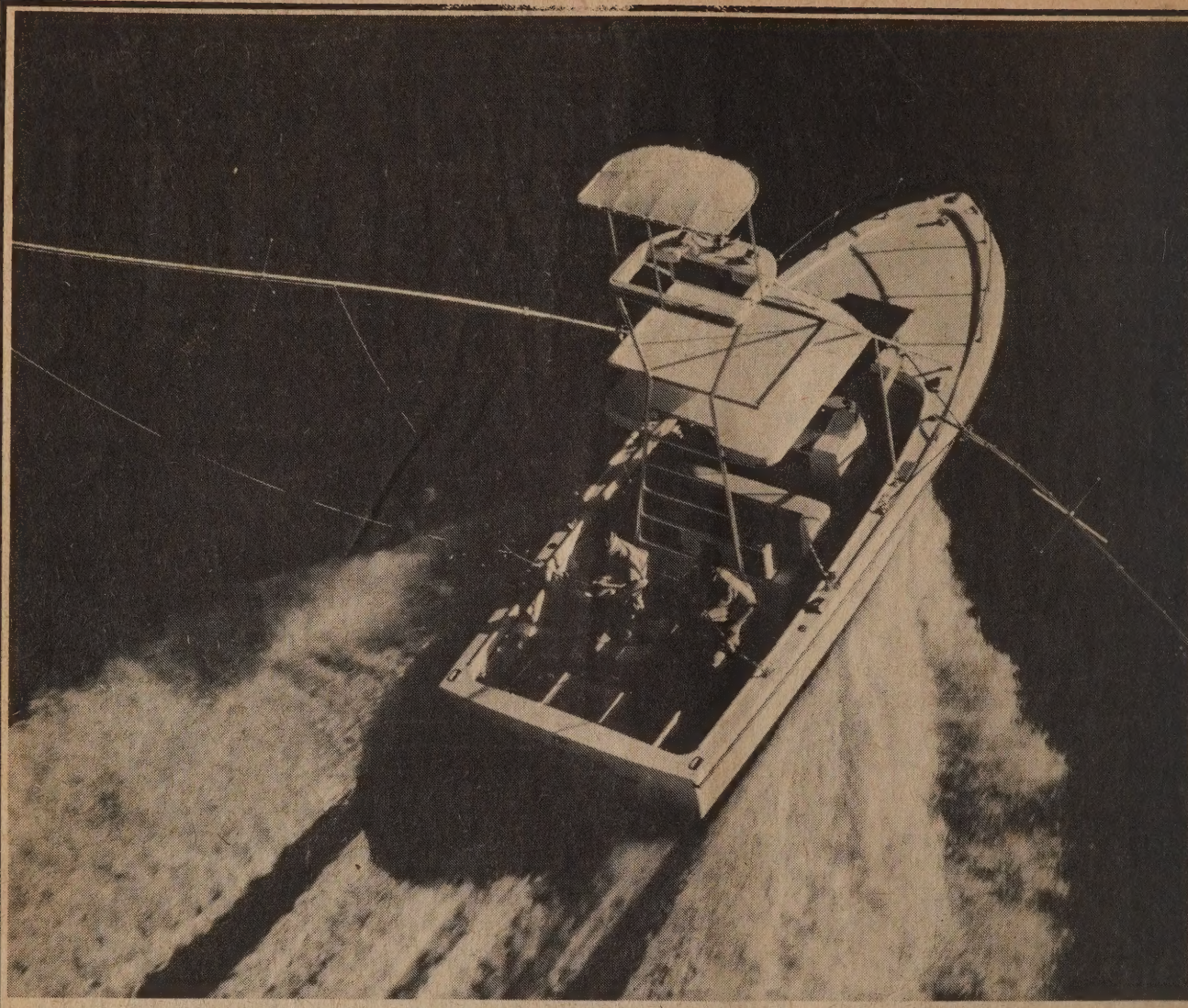

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 10, No. 27 July 17th, 1975

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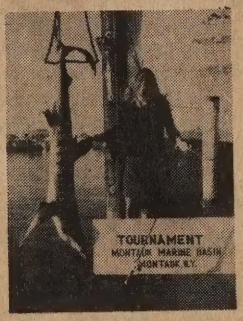

ABOUT THE COVER: This 105 lb. blue shark which Joan Mackall caught and may be a new IGFA Women's World Record for 6 lb. Class Line, was taken aboard Capt. Charlie Nappi's Sea Witch II, names which keep popping up whenever talking about "Monster Fishing". See pages 6 and 14 and find out why.

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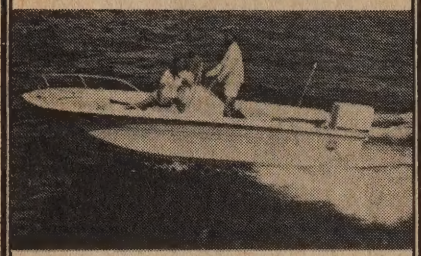

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THANKS RESCUERS, WHOEVER YOU ARE

Wednesday evening, July 2, I went Fluke fishing in the Fire Island Inlet with my daughter and her girlfriend, both age 13. We were having an enjoyable evening when suddenly our boat got turned and a huge wave hit us broadside. I was thrown from the boat and when I surfaced the boat was a good 25 yards away, with two histerical girls in it. The girls did have sence of mind to throw me a life preserver, but I couldn't find it. It seemed like a short instance later I was lifted by a wave and already another boat had come to the rescue of the girls and a man was in my boat and had it under control. Then I started to worry about myself. Although I had spent 21 years in the Navy, having retired 3 years ago, (and never got wet), I am not the best swimmer. Shortly another boat came to my rescue and a happier sight was never seen. The breakers and waves were extremely trecherous and it took the boat a few minutes to maneuver over to me, but soon a life preserver was thrown and a short while later I was along side the boat, then into it.

I want to give heart felt thanks to my rescuers and to those who rescued my girls. We were indeed in a bad spot. Regretfully I was unable to get any names, but the boat that came to the aid of my girls hull number was 1097 and my rescuers' was 0702. I do not remember the letters. I wish to thank these people from the bottom of my heart, they prevented what could have become a disaster. I know of no other way to offer my grateful thanks to these people other than writing the L.I.F. *Bob Gardner, E. Farmingdale.*

PARK TOLLS

I am retired, living on a meager pension, but I do love my fishing. As I can not take ocean fishing, I've been fishing the quieter waters of Great South Bay on party boats from Captree at least once a week.

I see now that the toll to Captree is increased to $2—this on top of the increase in tolls on the Southern State Parkway makes it almost prohibitive for me to continue with the only form of enjoyment that I have. The price rise on gasoline for the 90 mile round trip is also a burden.

Can something be done for fishermen who only use the parking facility and not the beaches so that a lower toll can be charged?

I'm sure the Captree boat owners will lost a lot o fares by the toll increase. *Sal Valk, Brooklyn.*

The Long Island Parks Commission issues a "Golden Age" pass for all senior citizens of 65 years and over. This pass alows senior citizens to use all parks and parking facilities (including tolls) absolutely free of charge.

All you need do is apply at the park commission headquarters at Belmont State Park or The Administrative Building at Robert Moses State Park. Bring proof of age. Rich Reina.

THANKS FOR AN EXCITING DAY

On Sunday July6, we had a blue fish charter with Capt. Mike Fay of the Empire out of Freeport. We had over fourty blues that averaged between eight and ten pounds with the pool fish going over thirteen pounds but the most exciting part of the day was when "Patty boy" hooked into a Blue Shark. After a fourty minute fight the fish was finally lost but we had a few good looks at him right along side the boat. We couldn't get the gaff into him. The shark was approximately 7 to 8 feet long and was a real thrill especially for a few of the first time fishermen on board. I think Capt. Mike and his partner Capt. Marty did a great job in trying to help "Pattyboy" land his shark. In our oppinion they are the finest Capt's in Freeport. *Joe Rella, Bronx.*

ARE CRABS EDIBLE

I have been catching many brown crabs the last few weeks and I would like to know if they are edible or not. They have a rounded body. They are reddish brown in color and have spots all over their body. The majority of these crabs were caught in the vicinity

The Long Island **FISHERMAN**

FISHING TRIP CONTEST

NO NUMBER NO WINNER!

You can't have a winner without a number! The winning number for last week fell off the page somewhere between our offices and the printer, so it didn't appear. So the $20 prize, will be awarded to the number on page 17 a week late. Sorry about that!

of Rils Park and Rockaway Point. *William Thies, Brooklyn.*

From your description it sounds like a calico crab. It could be a lady crab, However, I would lean toward the former. In any event they are both edible, so enjoy, but I warn you, there won't be much meat on them. Rich Reina.

CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

JONES BEACH AND CAPTREE STATE PARKS FISHING CLINIC SCHEDULE

The Fishing Clinic is sponsored by The Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission and the Captree Bait Station. It will be held at Jones Beach Fishing Piers at 10 A.M., and at Captree Fisherman's Walk at 1 P.M. There will be door prizes.

The Dates are:
May 17 Flounder Fishing
May 24 Blackfish Fishing
May 31 How to Catch, Clean and Prepare Blowfish and Eels
June 7 Fluke Fishing
2 week recess
June 28 Bay fishing for "Weaks" and "Kings"

July 5 "Pest" Fishies and What you should know about them
July 12 Natural Marine Baits—Part 1
July 19 Natural Marine Baits—Part 2
2 week recess
August 9 Bluefish and "Snapper" Fishing
August 16 Surf Fishing—Part 1
August 23 Surf Fishing—Part 2
August 30 Striped Bass Fishing

L.I. STATE PARK JUNE CONTEST WINNERS

FROM THE BANK AND SURF

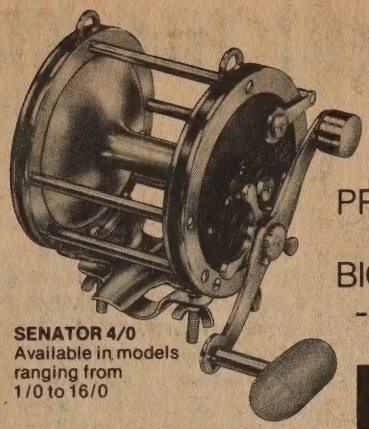
1. John Bentz, Oceanside, Striped Bass, 38 lbs., 2. Ken Pope, Holtsville, Striped Bass, 37 lbs. 14 oz.; 3. Gerald Ebner, Lindenhurst, Bluefish, 12 lbs. 6 oz.

FROM THE PIER

1. Augie Hemendinger, Lindenhurst, Weakfish, 8 lbs. 10 oz.; 2. Paul Madori, Bronx, Blackfish, 7 lbs.; 3. Paul Tinelli, Hericho, Fluke, 6 lbs. 1 oz.

FROM THE BOAT

1. Dorothy Lynch, Manhattan, Bluefish, 15 lbs. 4 oz.; 2. George Mahr, Jr., Bay Shore, Fluke, 11 lbs. 5 oz.; 3. Joe Kane, Sayville, Weakfish, 10 lbs. 5 oz.; 3. Terry Spagnolo, Queens, Fluke, 10 lbs. 5 oz.



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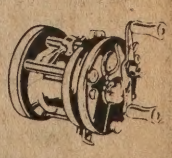

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Chumming for White Marlin

by Capt. Charles Nappi

With the oncoming season just around the corner, more likely than not the mind of every big game enthusiast is filled with thoughts of screaming drags, rod tips bent like horseshoes, and giant fish leaping through the air. Being one of these deep ocean adventurers myself, my train of thought is right on course.

Many of you know that shark fishing is my specialty, and all of us are well aquainted with how sport fishing for sharks has grown in the past decade, yet, I wonder just how many of us are familiar with the extra added attractions entailed in this so called sport.

Starting from scratch some twenty years ago, and learning side by side with my good friend and no-less-than-great fisherman, Capt. John Walton, it's a sure thing we spread our share of chum slicks all over the briny deep in our quest for these monsters. It's true, the high percentage of fish caught were sharks, but you can bet that we boated or at least hooked every other fish out there.

With ninety nine and nine-tenths percent success you can well imagine that chumming, in my opinion, is the only way. No doubt we all have the same goals, but, as many as we number, there are just as many different ways and ideas of reaching them. You know who has this secret lure and who has that one, who trolls at this speed and who trolls at that one. Sure, at one time or another, they all work, some more productive than others, but that's fishing. Yes, we all have our thing, and chumming is mine.

Also believing in giving credit when due, I must say that trolling for whites can be a very thrilling experience. A good day can give you action galore, with hook-up after hook-up, and have you gaping in awe at the many magnificent leaps. And, with luck on your side, a few fish brought to lead. Mostly all whites caught while trolling will weigh between fourty and sixty pounds; a seventy or eighty pounder will make you odds-on favorite at the weigh in.

Let me be the first to admit that a seventy or eighty pound white marlin is a great fish. But I must also admit that this very moment has me glancing at my wall in amazement, as I have caught

Chumming produces many fish, among them sharks and white marlin.

myself doing many times since the mount of this truly magnificent 108 pound white marlin was completed and hung there. This fish was captured while chumming some twenty miles south-southeast of Montauk Light in 190 feet of water. The man on the stick was Mr. William Kuhle. Entering the sixty-first Field & Stream contest, Kuhle won by a landslide, out-weighing his nearest contender by thirty-two pounds.

Thanks to chumming, the Sea Witch and I have four of these giant white marlin to our credit, all topping the scales at over a hundred pounds. Although the hundred eight pounder is still on top of the list, we came very close to putting him in second place the season before last, but after an hour battle the hook was thrown at the boat.

My best luck with the real big fish has been in the month of August, fishing in 170 to 190 feet of water. Fresh mackerel is the best bait you can use; these big fish go bananas for them. So, if they are available, by all means get some. A string, from amidships to the stern cleat and rigged with clothespins, will provide a good dropback setup while chumming. Even though a fish in your chum stream is there to eat and not to play games, this is still a marlin you're after, and a dropback can by no means do harm. Contrary to the fish you troll, these biggies take the bait with gusto, driving the hook deep and making your chances of landing them much greater.

So, if it's quality fish you're after, give it a whirl. And if enough of us try, I firmly believe that, in the near future, both Long Island and one of us might very well be the holders of the new White Marlin World Record!

Surf Side

with Doc Muller

FLUKE
Part 1

Most people think of fluke as a species caught from a boat, but I can't think of a nicer way to spend a leisurely summer's day at the beach than to pull out a few fluke from the surf. The end of the day will be nice too, especially if you fillet your catch and brown them up for dinner.

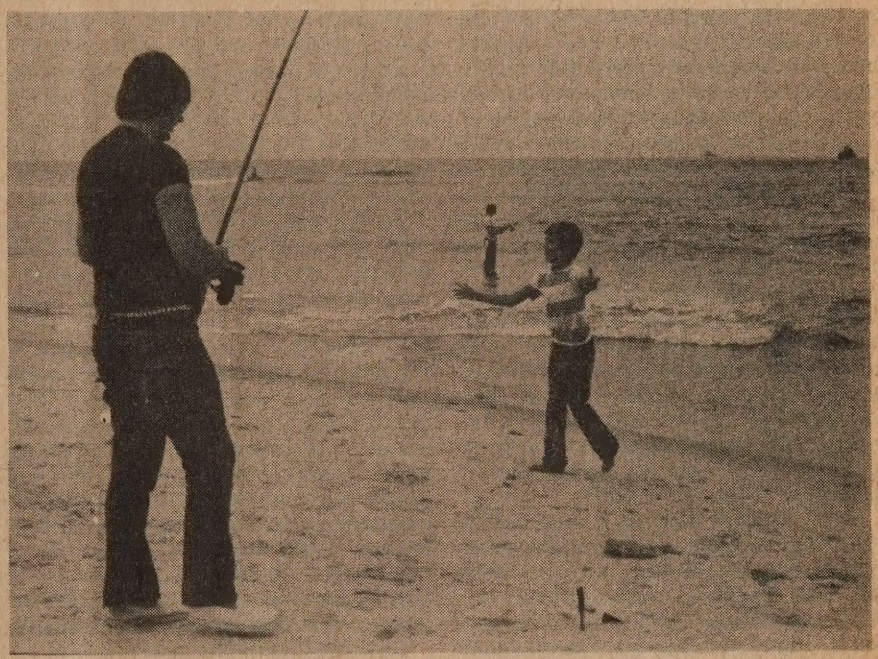
Fluke are a gamefish. I say that without reservation and before the letters start pouring in in objection, let's look critically at this animal and try to determine its physical and ecological characteristics.

Begin with the triangular teeth that stud both jaws. That set of dentures did not evolve for eating worms, clams, and mussels. Their purpose is to grab, hold, and chew baitfish and other quick moving baits. This, in order to swallow large baits the fish has a large mouth and although the teeth can shred squid, sandeels, killies and the like, most of the food consumed by the fluke is swallowed whole.

Fluke have powerful muscles and they can lunge at a bait if the current is taking it away rapidly. Fluke are not sluggish. In fact, I was almost bitten by one at the experimental marine laboratory at Old Field Point when the D.E.C. was engaged in hormone studies which they believed would help them to spawn the species artificially. This was several years ago when the fluke were scarce.

Philip Briggs, a fisheries biologist at the labs, showed me a plywood tank that contained several five pound fluke and the tank was about 4 to 5 feet deep. While I chattered with Mr. Briggs a fluke came quickly off the bottom headed right for my fingers which were dangling in the water. Fortunately for me, Mr. Briggs saw what was happening and pulled my hand out of the water.

Further experiments with both fluke and flounder, that I conducted myself, indicate that both species are inquisitive, fast, and voracious eaters. The fish, both species, swam from every corner of the experimental tank to inspect anything that drifted to the bottom from the surface. Both species consumed pieces of fish that were as much as one-half the size of the specimen. The tiny fish would have to work their dinner over for some time, but sooner or latter they'd get it down. Would you believe that no sooner had a huge piece of fish been swallowed when they'd come looking for more? Well, That's exactly what they did until their stomachs were so swollen that the entire fish took on the appearance of a bump on the bottom.



"Look Mom, Dad's got a big one!" Family fishing at Fire Island Inlet for fluke is productive.

These flatfish do not rest flat on the bottom. When they are feeding they elevate themselves on their fins with the eyes constantly moving searching for movements in the vicinity. When they are not feeding they'll cover themselves slightly so that only the head protrudes from the sediment.

In spite of these qualifications for gamefish stardom, the fluke is a poor fighter and surrenders rather easily on most occasions. However, if you happen to snag one, then they will run well and may even take drag. Why is it that they often barely struggle when hooked? I believe that it's because the natural instincts of the fish may cause a reaction to an escaping prey rather than to a condition of danger.

Yet they have a certain charm. Perhaps because they are abundant now and can be had by almost any surf fisherman. Perhaps because they are so good to eat. Or perhaps because as the hot days of summer drag out we are content to leisurely catch a few fish. Let's look at how we can improve our fluke fishing.

The fish may literally be everywhere, but the thoughtful surf fisherman should give certain areas preference. The inlet areas are great for fluke, especially if there is a bar with moving water over it at some stage of the tide. Actually any change in depth that is marked will usually hold fish. Even the open sand beaches can be coaxed to give up a few fish if there is an offshore bar close to the beach. The fish will stack up on the down-current slope of a bar because, since they are looking for baitfish, a variety of small fishes will tumble in the rip that makes up on the top of the bar but which carries its turbulence down-tide into the trough behind the bar.

Sometimes there are sand bars that stretch off a point of land and here too the current will swirl creating an ideal hunting ground for fluke. Dredged channels are good spots too, but usually they are too far off the beach to be reached by us. Yet if you know of one that's close enough the fluke will also be waiting on the slope because various baits that may swim in the area will head straight into it. It is for their protection that they hug the shadows of the slope, but the fluke will

(Continued on page 45.)

CROSSING THE BAR *with Don Vetter*

SEAMANSHIP

Handling your boat in busy harbors and heavily travelled channels can be as demanding as running a rough inlet, as statistics indicate that the majority of boating mishaps occur in these crowded waterways. Most skippers, however, eventually break away from the mobs and head out to sea.

The handling of a boat offshore in the open sea is where your skills receive one of their most demanding tests. Aside from the skill of the skipper, vital though this may be, the boat itself is of cardinal importance. Sheer size actually has but little bearing on the intrinsic seaworthiness of the craft; it is hull design and construction which are the vital factors. There are 17-foot outboards as safe offshore as 40-foot inboard cruisers.

Any craft has its limitations, and it would be foolish indeed to expect one designed for inside bay use to perform offshore in all weather. Just how well any given vessel will perform offshore is contingent to a large degree upon the ability of the man at the helm; an experienced seaman may be able to weather a blow in a poorly-designed craft, while a novice might founder in a far larger and more seaworthy boat.

Just what constitutes rough weather at sea is relative. What may appear to be a terrifying storm to the landsman is likely to be nothing more than a stiff breeze to the mariner who has seen the sea in all its moods and majesty. Storage of gear aboard to achieve proper trim is another factor, aside from size and hull design, which will have an important effect on the manner in which a boat performs in a seaway.

Large, shallow bodies of water may kick up an uncomfortable sea in a stiff blow, for their depth is insufficient for the waves to assume their natural form. Short, steep, breaking seas are the result. Well out at sea over deep water, a wind of the same velocity would produce only a moderate sea, with well-spaced wave crests, no breaking and a far smoother appearance.

No properly designed hull should experience any great difficulty in running into a head sea. Some spray may be thrown, and there may be (depending on the extent of V-conformity of the hull) a tendency to pound as the bow meets the impace of the oncoming seas, but no real problems should be encountered as long as you are heading directly or nearly directly into the seas. Deep-V hulls are at their best in this situation, but any seaworthy design will suffice if you slow down in the face of really steep seas, to allow the bow a chance to rise in meeting each successive sea, rather than driving it deep into it. Altering course a bit to meet the seas a few points off the bow, rather than head-on, may help reduce the strain and pounding.

If your course is such that you run in the trough, you may begin to experience some real difficulty; your boat may roll heavily, you may take green water over the side, and the risk of capsizing is always present in really heavy seas. It may become necessary to make good your course in a series of "tacks" or zig-zags to keep the seas broad on either the bow or on the quarter. In either case, there is less danger and uncomfortable motion present than in running in the trough.

Running before the seas presents no real problems if you can keep up with the waves; if you cannot, the stern may be thrown about, pushing you off your course to one side or the other. This tendency to yaw in a following sea is particularly problematical in low-powered craft which lack the speed to keep pace with the waves. If the following sea becomes truly heavy, your boat may tend to charge down the slope from crest to trough; stern high, propeller and rudder may lose their grip in the water. Attendant loss of control may result in yawing far enough to broach-to; i.e., the boat thrown broadside into the trough.

This dangerous situation must be avoided and slowing down may be the answer in this case to allow the heavy seas to pass. Your motion may be uncomfortable, you may yaw and even take water over the transom as each sea catches up with you, but you will avoid the far greater hazard of broaching-to.

There are two distinct types of waves encountered at sea: the chop produced by local winds and the heavy groundswell, characterized by deep rollers formed by the winds action over a protracted expanse of water. Swells are often present even where there is no wind to speak of, formed by the action of storms far out to sea. Running in a chop presents no challenge to the average boatman; some spray may wet him and that is the extent of it. Not so in the case of light, high speed craft; great care must be exercised lest they flip over, and this calls for a special brand of skill in seamanship.

Groundswells offshore present no real hazard, though they may give your craft an uncomfortable motion; however, excessive speed in the presence of heavy rollers may be dangerous. There is the danger of facing down a slope and causing your boat to pitchpole, i.e., driving her head under in the trough, tripping her bow, and allowing the next crest to catch the stern and throw her end over end. A thoroughly nasty situation to be avoided at all costs. So SLOW DOWN!

Severe sea conditions may necessitate heaving-to. This presented no problems in sailing-ship days; just enough canvas was set aft to keep the ship's head into the seas in a comfortable attitude long enough to ride out the storm. The average powerboat, with her high freeboard forward, will tend to pay off until she is either taking seas abeam while lying in the trough or over the stern. While it is mercifully infrequent that a motorboat is caught far enough out at sea to be forced to ride out a gale, the procedure should be known.

The first method is known as heaving-to under power, and is good only for short periods of time—contingent upon the fuel supply aboard. The bow is brought around into the seas with just enough power applied to keep it there without making headway. The second method calls for shutting down the engine and using a device known as a sea-anchor or drogue. The drogue is a coneshaped canvas bag with a round metal hoop to keep its mouth open. Affixed to the anchor rode and streamed from the bow, it keeps the boat's bow into the seas through drag. A light "trip line" is attached to the apex of the cone to spill the drogue and thereby facilitate its recovery aboard.

Up till now we have been discussing sea conditions which may prevail offshore and how to deal with them. Now we must examine the far more treacherous situations to be encountered in rough water near shore, particularly around inlets. Waves over the open sea may reach towering

(Continued on page 11.)

Whiting Evans

The Casting Gourmet

Good Ways of Eating Blues and Stripers

By the time these recipes are being read the blue fish and the striped bass (hopefully, the latter) will be with us and if we go to the right places, use the right lures or bait, present them in such a manner that the fish can't refuse, hook and beach them without making too many goofs, we'll have the makings of some delicious meals.

Although my own "better half", my wife Erna, doesn't like to fish worth a damn, by dint of having had thirty eight years of experience in cooking a goodly number of bass and blues, she has turned into an excellent preparer of fish for the inner man. As a matter of fact though, she has had a bit of help from me at one time or another. I remember, for example, when we had returned from our honeymoon, she prepared our first breakfast in our own home. She had set the table with perfection; the grapefruit was wonderful. Then she asked me which cereal I would prefer. I replied that Wheatena would be just fine. So, in no time at all, in she came with a cereal bowl in which there was Wheatena—uncooked! She's come a long way since then.

Erna almost always broils the fillets of stripers or blues. First she sprinkles lemon juice over them and then some salt and pepper. She lays the fillets on buttered aluminum foil which is placed on a shallow pan. The fish is about 3 or 4 inches away from the overhead flame. Depending on the thickness of the fillets, it takes about 4 or 5 minutes to cook them. Fish is always done when it flakes easily. The thicker fillets are broiled on each side. Never overcook fish; it should be moist. Before serving sprinkle the fillets with paprika and serve with wedges of lemon. Delicious and simple.

Blue Fish Baked With Creamy Lemon Cheese Sauce

Fillets of a 4 pound blue fish
¼ pound butter or oleo
2 tablespoons of lemon juice
1 cup of milk
½ cup of shredded sharp Ceddar cheese
2 egg yolks beaten
2 tablespoons of flour

Wash and dry the fillets. Put them in an aluminum foil laid in a shallow baking pan. Place them in a hot oven (about 450 degrees) for 15 minutes. Drain; then season with salt and pepper. Keep about 2 tablespoons of butter in reserve but spread the rest over the fish. Be sure foil is open but closed enouth so the butter will hold. Now reduce the heat to 325 degrees and bake for 30 minutes. Baste with butter every so often and then place under broiler for 5 minutes before serving.

To make the sauce put the 2 tablespoons butter in a sauce pan and blend in the 2 tablespoons of flour and ½ teaspoon of salt and a bit of pepper. Add the milk and stir until it thickens. Add a small amount of the mixture into the beaten egg yolks and then add this to the hot mixture. Now add the cheese and the lemon juice. Keep stirring to melt the cheese. Pour over the blue fish and garnish it with chopped parsley. (If you haven't eaten blue fish this way you haven't lived—enough!)

Striped Bass (a la Montauk)

2 pounds striped bass fillets
1 cup meduim white cream sauce
½ cup mayonaise
¼ cup lemon juice
1 tablespoon chives
¼ cup of white wine (Chablis)
1 tablespoon butter

Place the fish in a buttered casserole. Mix the cream sauce with the mayonaise, lemon juice, chives and white wine and pour the result over the fish. Put the butter in bits on top of the fish and bake at 400 degrees for 25 or 30 minutes. The flavor of this dish is ez-queezeet!

Baked Striped Bass Fillets (Serves 4 to 6 gourmets)

2 pounds striped bass fillets
1 large onion sliced thinly
1 cup dry white wine
3 tablespoons of butter or oleo
2 tomatoes, sliced and seasoned
or I can 8 oz. tomato sauce
½ green sliced pepper
2 tablespoons Worchestershire Sauce

Put the pepper and salt on the fillets and then place in a shallow baking dish; cover with the onion slices and then the wine. Put cover on pan. Place in your refrigerator for a couple of hours.

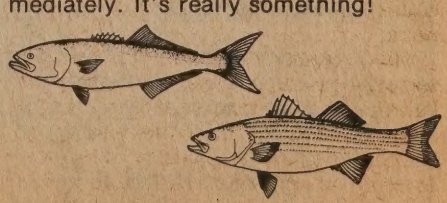
Just about three quarters of an hour before serving pre-heat the oven to 375 degrees F. Melt the butter in a large baking pan and then transfer the fish and onion from the wine to the pan. Cover with the tomatoes and the green pepper. Bake for about a half hour or until fish flakes. While baking baste the fish often with the white wine and Worcestershire from the other pan. You can serve this dish either hot or cold.

Rum Souffle (a dessert)

In one of our last few issues I included a recipe for a rum omelot. Quite a few of my readers seemed quite intrigued with it so I thought you'd like to have an alternative. I have prepared this one myself and it is truly sensational; your guests will be highly impressed. Caution! Don't prepare it for your own family alone. Your potential guests would never forgive you for missing it.

4 egg yolks beaten
¼ pound sugar
1 liquor glass fine old rum
6 egg whites beaten stiffly
apricot jam

Beat the egg yolks with the sugar and add the rum. Beat the mixture until it is light and fluffy—maybe 15 mintues. Now carefully fold in the egg whites which you have beaten till they almost yelled. Now butter a souffle dish and cover the bottom of it with a thick layer of the apricot jam. After you have turned in the egg mixture with great care on top of the jam, the dish should now be about three-quarters full. Now bake in a pre-heated oven (450 degrees) for twenty or twenty five minutes. Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar and serve immediately. It's really something!



THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

PORGY FISHING

Part One

Around the offices of **The Long Island Fisherman** I have a little line I always say whenever the conversation turns to the striped bass pro's. "That Ronnie Lepper, (or Frank Braddick or Don Eichin or Al Urban, etc.) is sure a great bass man," someone will comment. My wide-eyed, tongue-in-cheek query is "Yeah, but can he catch a **Porgy**?!!" Or if someone is enthusiastically telling me of the 40-pound-plus bass he caught in the surf on a home-made plug with 6-lb. test, I'll casually interupt and say "I'd rather catch a ten pound porgy," and quickly walk away before the angler gets his tongue untied.

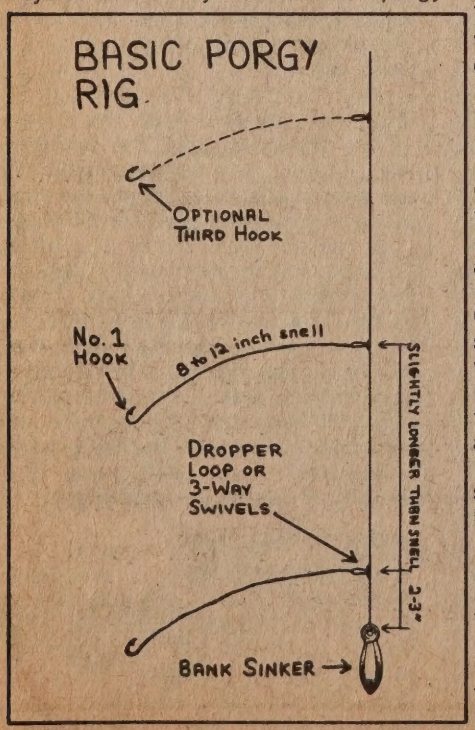
But as the saying goes "things said in jest often aren't all bull" (or something like that). I really WOULD rather catch a ten pound porgy, because 1. no one has ever caught one, and 2. it probably would fight a hell of a lot harder than a big bass. The northern porgy (commercially known as scup) is one of the scrappiest fish around and can provide some of the fastest action of any of the bottom species in our waters.

The porgy fishery has shown a steady year-by-year improvement since heavy over-fishing and natural cycles drastically reduced the porgy population in the mid '60's, bringing fears to many anglers that they would go the way of the Sheepshead Porgy. The Peconic Bay area has been having an excellent run of fish in 3 digit quantities, the trawlers and traps have been overflowing with fish out east and the porgies are off to an excellent start on the North Shore and at Montauk—more than a month ahead of last years schedule. The New York Bight is the only area where the porgy has not returned to its former prominence, undoubtably due to ecological changes in bottom formations and water quality.

The porgies first arrive in our waters around mid-May, entering the Peconic Bays via the Shinnecock Canal and Block Island Sound to spawn. While spawning, few if any fish are taken by hook-and-line. In about two weeks the fish are done making little porgies, and they start feeding again with a vengeance at Jessup's Neck, Robbin's Island, Nassau Point, the Monastery and just about any wreck or rocky bottom in the Peconic Bays.

By the middle of June the fish start spreading out into their summer haunts. The smaller "sand" porgies start infiltrating the inshore waters along the island's rocky North Shore. The medium, large and "humpback" variety fan out eastward to Guardiner's Island, Hick's Island, Cartwright Island and the Napeague Harbor before finally arriving at Montauk. Here they will usually take up summer residence and remain well into October or early November when the fall migration is on. Porgies virtually pave the bottom during July, August and September at Outer Shagwong Reef, Great Eastern Rock, the Ebow, Caswell's and Ditch Plains, with fish spread out in small pockets in all the waters between these areas. "Humpback" porgies two to 4 lbs. are usually taken at Great Eastern Rock and on any small shoal, reef, or rocky area ("pieces" of bottom) along the south side from the Point to Ditch Plains and beyond.

Porgies are a schooling fish and will primarily be found on rocky or rolugh bottom, but at times will be found feeding most anywhere. They feed primarily on small crustaceans and bivalves, so look for bottom formations that harbor an abundance of same—particularly beds of black mussels and rock strewn bottom. When I get into an area that has good porgy potential I use the drift, mark and anchor method of locating the fish. First drift until you boat a fish or two, then mark the spot with a marker buoy. (A plastic anti-freeze can or bleach bottle with 100 feet of line wrapped around it and a sash weight does the trick nicely.) Then I make a second drift over the same area to make sure the fish were part of a school and not just strays. Then I anchor and lower the chum pot to draw the fish to the boat and get ready for some hot and heavy action!



Rigging up for porgies is a simple high-low rig with a few modifications. (See diagram.) The bottom hook should be no more than two or three inches above the sinker, and the second hook should be a little higher than the length of the snell above it to prevent tangling. How long is the snell? Good question—most anglers prefer a ten to 12 inch snell, but I prefer them to be 8 to 10 inches for porgies for several reasons. For one, the shorter the snell the stiffer it is, so it stands away from the leader better and doesn't get tangled. Shorter snells also allow me to add a third hook within two feet of the sinker, the normal feeding zone of porgies. This third hook can only be appreciated after having to pull in two baitless hooks time after time when the porgies are particularly larcenous. The third hook will often make the difference.

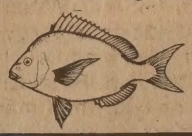
And now for the hook department. Most pre-snelled hooks sold and labeled for "Porgy" have one thing in common—they are much too large. Porgies have very small mouths and are lightning-fast bait stealers, second only to the Mighty Bergall. To expect to hook them in light of these two traits with oversized hooks is foolish. So why use 2/0 or 3/0 hooks when the porgy hasn't been born yet that could give birth to a porgy that can't be caught on a number one hook?

Personally, I use number one beak baitholders that I snell myself. Sproat and O'Shaughnessy patterns can also be used with equal success. The important point here is the point—it must be super-sharp for quick penetration of the hard, small mouth of the porgy.

Tackle should be matched to the fish and your desired results. If you want

o put a lot of fish in the boat, by all means use a short rod with medium action and conventional reel loaded with 15 or 20 lb. test monofilament. If the fish box is of secondary importance, use a light one-handed spinner with six to 10 lb. test mono. You'll hook and land fewer fish, but have more fun trying.

NEXT WEEK: Fishing Techniques



SEAMANSHIP

(Continued from page 8.)

heights during severe storms, but the distance from crest to crest is great; these swells are known as **trochoidal waves**. When these same seas begin to feel the influence of shelving shoreline and bars, they become shorter and steeper. These **cycloidal** waves form breakers when the effects of shoaling inhibit their natural formation, and create a very hazardous situation for the mariner.

Inlet-running in foul weather is one of the supreme tests of seamanship and it is of assistance to understand some of the forces which produce the conditions which prevail in and about them. Aside from the shoaling and its effect on wave-form already discussed, tidal currents are especially strong in inlets and add to the turbulence, particularly when they are running in opposition to the direction of the seas. Sand bars at the approaches to inlets may be so located as to cause seas to strike them at several angles. This results in confused conditions in the inlet which render it all but impossible to keep your boat squarely before the sea.

The primary rule in inlet-running is to keep your boat away from the crests of steep seas. Assume a position about halfway up the back of a swell and jockey the throttle to maintain that position. With plenty of power and bit of luck, you may be able to ride one sea right through the inlet. If you move too slowly, the following sea may catch up with you and throw your quarter around enough to cause the boat to broach-to. Too much power applied can cause your boat to ride right over the crest ahead and be pitch-poled into the trough below.

Timing is of the essence in inlets. Color of the water is important, for the darker it appears, the better depth you can expect. Waves usually form in groups of three, with the last wave the largest of the group. Try to time your entry when a big one has spent its force on the bar and then run in begind it.

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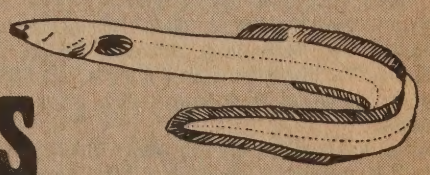

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When Was the Last Time You Caught a Kingfish?

by Bruce Sucher

It was about six years ago and I was fishing a sunrise flood tide just on the other side of the Atlantic Beach Bridge. The water was surprisingly calm in an area of high surf. I'd wearied myself casting a large assortment of swimmers, darters and poppers and had given in to the dozen large bloodworms that I had brought for just such a moment.

Sipping Thermos coffee and watching the sun burn off the early morning mist, I was startled by my 10 foot rod bending almost dangerously. I could see the pumping and just as I got to it to lift if from the sand spike it returned to its less inspiring, unarced state.

I felt for the weight of a fish, but there was nothing. I let it sit in hopes of whatever it was returning for a retake, but in five minutes pulled in the rig. Except for the head of the worm, the 3/0 hook was clean. I quickly rebaited and dropped it back in the same hole.

As I was putting the rod back in the spike the hit came, and it was a good one. I could feel the power of what felt like a good-sized school bass, but then as suddenly as it had come the power was gone. I made a repeat of the first and second experiences and the hit came and the fish was gone.

Getting a little nervous now. Had I brushed my teeth that morning? Was I offending these phantom fish? Were my motives pure? Had I done something in the recent past to enrage Poseidon? There was no figuring out all those variables. Instead, I put on a number 4 beak hook and a smaller piece of bait. Again I cast the 2-ounce pyramid into the drop off at the edge of the bar.

Holding the rod now, I felt the same powerful hit, but the sickening aftermath of a 2-ounce sinker and a baitless hook was not repeated. The fish seemed to give in after the hit. It fought but with less power. As it neared the beach it again surged and finally I eased it through the small waves.

What a surprise! By the way it fought I had expected a six-pound bass, but what I saw at the water line was a two pound kingfish. I had seen kingfish only a few times before in Jamaica Bay, and they had been small, immature fish of about a half-pound or less, caught while early fall flounder fishing. This was almost another species. Its color was a mottled blue green and brass running into silver. Its dorsal fin was extended almost off its uneven tail. It was a beautiful fish.

Two average kingfish and some of their favorite snacks: shrimp and bloodworms.

I rebaited and caught another and another. My mind was no longer on bass. If something that weighed two pounds could fight that well, I thought, then it surely deserves its name. And how big did they run? Perhaps there was a five-pounder that would burn my drag or straighten the small hook! The bait gave out before the fish did. After losing the last mushy piece of bait I tried to use the sand fleas that I dug from the wet sand. I caught a few more fish on these, but as the water line descended so did the action. After an hour of hitless rod holding I gave up. The dozen fish imbedded in the sand were admired for the last time and then were cleaned. That night, with some mussels oregannta and spaghetti, I found another reason for their name. They were the best tasting fish I had ever eaten.

After that experience I became a kingfish devotee. I tried to study them, read whatever limited literature existed, and finally began asking other anglers questions. It seemed that almost every experienced fisherman had caught them, but not while they were fishing for kingfish. Either they had had an experience similar to mine while bass fishing, or it had been on a weakfish of flounder trip. But never on a kingfish expedition!

I learned through a lot of traveling and kinfishless days why this is so. If you think bass are inconsistent, try mastering your kingfish. I finally found a place that, if the tide is high and the sun is just rising and if I cross my fingers and toes and if the day's date is an odd number, I will catch them.

I generally start fishing for kingfish in mid-July, and go on into October when they form into larger schools and begin their southward migration. I have done most of my fishing for them on the south shore, though I have been told that good catches are made in the Sound and in the Peconics. My theory, in general, about fishing is to stay as close to home as possible. In this way I thoroughly explore an area and learn when and where specific areas produce the best. If I could, I would fish out my living room window.

I have had my best catches from the jetties of Oak Beach in late September, early October. In July and August I favor the surf-side beaches of Lido and Long Beach. On days when the surf is too rough I'll fish Reynolds Channel or State Channel.

My tackle from surf or bank is generally an 8 foot medium action spinning rod and a matching reel full of good quality 12 pount test line. I try to get by with a 2-ounce pyramid sinker, but often have to use a 3-ouncer when the currents or surf are bad. My favorite hook is a size 4 beak-type. I tie two of them to 15 lb. test mono (not leader material) about one foot in length. The first one, or two tied in landem are placed a few inches above the sinker;and the second, three feet above that.

This is a fairly unconventional tactic for surf fishing, but sometimes the uncommon will produce better than the common. What is progress? My theory, which has proven itself, is that the two hooks (or 2 sets of hooks) cover more territory. Picture the sinker on a slight slope with the first hook on the bottom and the second hook still on the bottom but at a distance from the lead. The only thing wrong is that it is a bit more difficult to cast, but it is well worth the bother.

I have found the incoming tide to be best for kingfish and if it is dawn at this stage, so much the better. My favorite baits for kingfish are myriad: blookworms, squid, shrimp, and clam, just to name a few.

My fishing buddy Mike and I were at Oak Beach one day and though we'd picked a few fish, we just knew there were more. The tide was low and in desperation I began flipping over stones near one of the jetties, looking for I don't know what. Under one I found a soft-shelled green crab. Aha! In fifteen minutes I had two beautiful kings. Mike smiled from the other side of his face as he leaped to the sand and helped me look for more shedders. In other words, take more than one type of bait. If worms don't produce, switch to squid or clams.

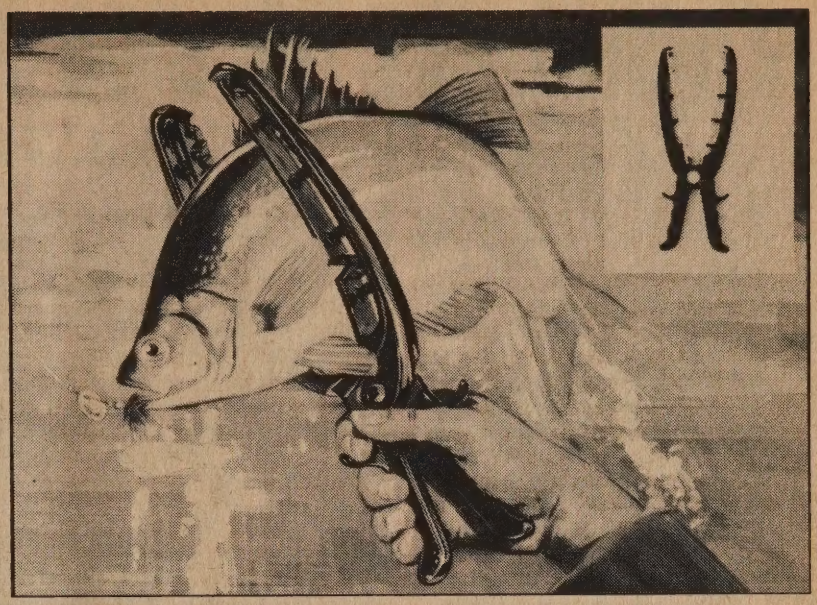
Try to fish near drop-offs and at the edges of sand bars. Bait of all types dear to these fish accumulate there, and it is there that you will have the best luck. When fishing from a boat I will generally anchor and chum, though this is not necessary. I just have a habit of catching more fish when I do. I'll use clamshells or a chumpot with clambellies, or I'll squash crabs that latch onto my bait and put them in the pot.

Stick to light conventional tackle and a light sinker. In this case I'll tie the two size 4 beak hooks in tandem and place them a few inches above the sinker.

If you're fishing for kingfish make sure your tackle is tied down: their first hit is phenomenal and I've seen light rods break (I laughed till I was sick), heavy line with too tight a drag part, and who knows how many hooks pull out. In other words, use a light drag and catch more fish.

A few last words on this underplayed species. Try to fish in areas, both surf and bay, where there is some tidal movement. If you can't hold bottom with 3 ounces of lead, move into quieter, less violent current. Many times it's a waiting game for these fish, but don't despair: The ones you get will be worth the wait both in battle and on the table.

About size: anything over two pounds is a lunker, so try to keep the tackle and that drag light. I guess that's about it. If the doldrums of mid-summer are upon you, then give em a try. You won't be disappointed.



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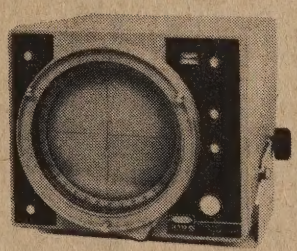

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SHARK! Cry the Blue Water Terror

by Dr. William A. Muller

"Two years ago, at this time in June, I saw a white shark that was 30 feet long!"

What a way to start a conversation. Thirty Feet long, that's not a fish that's a monster. I couldn't help but dwell on that number and in so doing I lost the train of the conversation, but the idea that a man would try to bait and catch a killer of that magnitude befuddled me. Most fishermen seek the white death with harpons, but not Capt. Nappi who was intent on taking a giant on hook and line.

What if that 30 foot monster should return? Were the tales of "Jaws" really so far-fetched? Could such a great fish turn on us and chew through the hull of our sturdy wood boat?

We bounced along for what seemed an eternity and the entire trip was an endless dream of triangular teeth and blood stained seas.

"There's a fish! Look at him come at the bait!" This was the culmination of Captain Nappi's expert navigation and precision chumming and his excitement compared well with that of a novice instead of the well salted captain that he is. Refreshing, I thought to myself, since I had seen so many charter boat captains turned bitter by callus customers and years of minding the tiller.

The exuberance of Captain Nappi's exclaimation brought all hands jumping from their perches on the bridge, the cots, and the fighting chairs to see our first killer of the day.

We stood breathlessly at the rail as the great shark passed the bait and headed for us. These fish have no fear of man and this one was no exception. The beast nudged the boat and engulfed the chum bag right up to the chord that held it firmly to the boat.

Instinctively the crew flew backward a few feet. The captain pulled the chum bag away from the huge tooth studded jaws and the fish turned and seemed to be headed away. But the bunker chum meal-bag that was denied this fish seemed to irritate him. It turned back at us and this time gained momentum. "Here it comes again," the captain shouted, "get that bait over here!"

But the beast didn't want the bait—he wanted us! He was angry and it shook its head as it steamed through the water. It was as though this animal had been reading my mind during the long trip to this patch of blue water.

Daily News outdoor editor Jerry Kenny and Sea Witch II mate Rick untie a shark from the stern.

The fish wasn't 3 feet from the boat when its cavernous jaws opened and then closed around the stern of the boat.

Our captain was delighted and although perhaps awed by this powerful animal, showed no fear. "Look at this crazy fish bite the boat."

That's funny? I remember thinking that this was a hell of a time to become amused with a beast that had just clamped down on the hull of your vessell like a vise.

Now more sharks swirled in the slick and several came within inches of the boat. One, two, four, and then six large sharks zig-zagged their way up the bunker slick.

How do you explain the behavior of these killers? They swam around the baits slowly for what seemed like hours, but was realistically maybe 10 or 15 minutes, without touching our offerings. Then, as if electronically signalled, one of them lunged at a baited hook.

I don't understand why they do that, but I can now understand why a person might die of a heart attack or shock long before the shark actually

attacked. I can't bear to think of the agony of watching a shark circle for perhaps 15 minutes knowing the inevitable will come but not knowing how many minutes of life you have left before the beast lunges at you.

Although most of the crew's reactions were numbed by the drama in the water our captain's instincts held together and he immediately dropped the bait back to the shark for 5 or 10 seconds.

When he engaged the reel and lifted the rod forcefully, the hook sunk home, the rod bent painfully, and the beast tore for the bottom. Quickly the other lines were brought aboard in order to try and discourage the other sharks from also picking up a bait. But the chum slick had worked too well and the frenzy was at a fever pitch as the sharks darted about nervously and soon several were attacking the chum bag.

"Look at that!" The shout distracted all of us away from the hooked fish, but there was a big billfish suspended in mid-air not 20 feet behind the boat.

The blue shark was pumped back to the surface, but it immediately regained every inch of line which drew tight as a bowstring at an angle of 90 degrees from the rod tip. The give and take repeated five or six times and still other sharks shot back and forth across the slick.

The battle continued. During the next appearance of the beast at the surface we noticed that in attacking the bait the fish had spit the whole squid almost thirty feet up the line. That spells trouble!

Captain Nappi began shouting orders to the mate. "The gaff quick!" The drama unravelled so fast that most of us didn't know what was happening, but the shark reacted within seconds.

Our captain swiped at the bait which was really still too far away from the boat and he missed. In a single motion the hooked fish made another run for the bottom and a second shark in the slick grabbed the bait crossing the line. The rod tip shuddered as the teeth of the unseen attacker gnawed away and the line parted.

Still other sharks were boated, but I slumped back in my chair and thought only of what would happen if an overeager angler, caught up in the drama of the hunt and perhaps mesmerized by the blue water should fall into that melee of sharks so excited by the pieces of chum that streamed away from the stern of the boat.

This is an alien environment where the fishermen is most vulnerable. But vulnerable or not, we're going to stage a come back for white shark later in the summer. Captain Nappi knows where the Great White Sharks will be then, for he has them charted and logged for many season. Will I be able to psyche myself up for another rendezvous with the jaws of death? For a sea-sick surf fisherman that may be a tall order!

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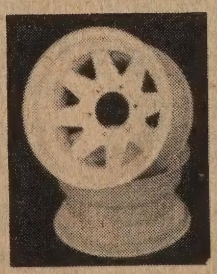

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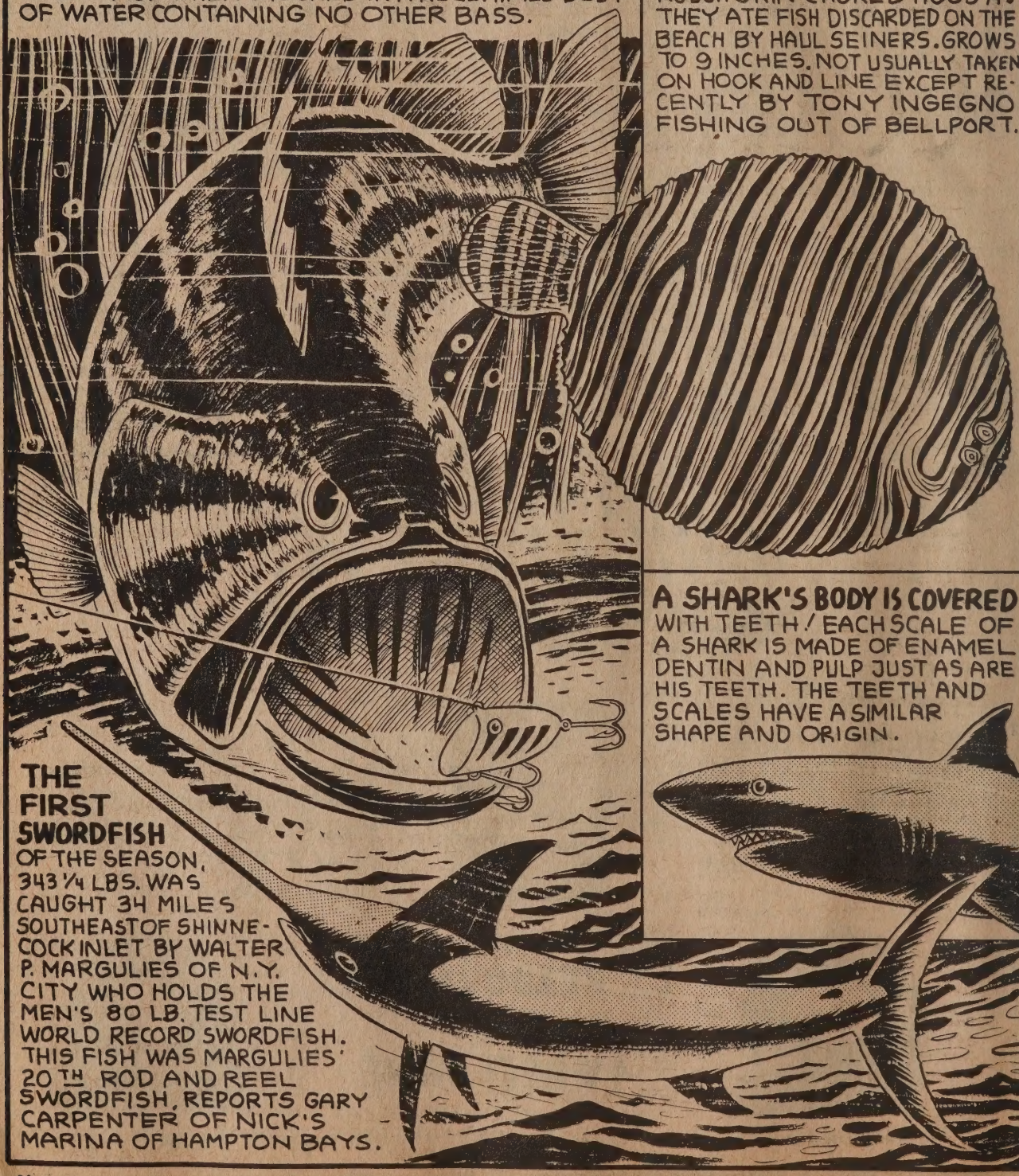
HOGCHOKERS & HYBRIDS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

HYBRID FRESHWATER BLACK BASS ARE HOSTILE AND AGRESSIVE. THEY HAVE ACTUALLY ATTACKED SWIMMERS AND DOGS PLAYING IN THE SHALLOWS! UNDER LABORATORY CONDITIONS FEMALE LARGE-MOUTHS ARE CROSSED WITH MALE SMALLMOUTHS. THESE HYBRIDS GROW RAPIDLY, SPAWN AT ONE YEAR AND ARE VERY HARDY. HYBRIDS ARE AN IDEAL SPORT FISH WHEN STOCKED IN A RECLAIMED BODY OF WATER CONTAINING NO OTHER BASS.

HOGCHOKERS ARE A RARE SPECIE OF "NAKED SOLES" WITH NO SCALES, NO RIBS AND TOO SMALL FOR FOOD VALUE. THEY ARE SOMETIMES CAUGHT IN A CLAMDIGGER'S TONGS. CALLED *"HOGCHOKER"* BECAUSE THEIR ROUGH SKIN CHOKED HOGS AS THEY ATE FISH DISCARDED ON THE BEACH BY HAUL SEINERS. GROWS TO 9 INCHES. NOT USUALLY TAKEN ON HOOK AND LINE EXCEPT RECENTLY BY TONY INGEGNO FISHING OUT OF BELLPORT.



A SHARK'S BODY IS COVERED WITH TEETH! EACH SCALE OF A SHARK IS MADE OF ENAMEL, DENTIN AND PULP JUST AS ARE HIS TEETH. THE TEETH AND SCALES HAVE A SIMILAR SHAPE AND ORIGIN.

THE FIRST SWORDFISH OF THE SEASON, 343 1/4 LBS. WAS CAUGHT 34 MILES SOUTHEAST OF SHINNECOCK INLET BY WALTER P. MARGULIES OF N.Y. CITY WHO HOLDS THE MEN'S 80 LB. TEST LINE WORLD RECORD SWORDFISH. THIS FISH WAS MARGULIES' 20TH ROD AND REEL SWORDFISH, REPORTS GARY CARPENTER OF NICK'S MARINA OF HAMPTON BAYS.

The Long Island FISHERMAN

FISHING TRIP CONTEST

The Long Island Fisherman is holding a contest where our readers can win a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the 45 convenient locations listed below and pick up an L.I.F. litter box for the rear window of his car. Each week the license plate number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, just call *The Fisherman* by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received by the deadline, the cash prize will accumulate.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

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GREAT SOUTH BAY FLUKE FISHING

by Doc Grell

Part Two

SPECIAL FLUKING TIPS

1. Do not lift large fluke from water into boat without a net. Swim your fish into the net.

2. Do not troll with bait casting rods and reels. This is an excellent way to take the shape, contour and resiliency out of your pole.

3. If you decide to chum fluke, keep your bait in the immediate vicinity of where you are chumming. It is sheer stupidity to have your terminal tackle 150 feet away from where the chum pot is located. Fluke will swim right up the chum slick.

4. Don't be afraid to "bastardize and hybridize" your bait and terminal tackle. There is absolutely nothing wrong in adding a piece of pork rind to a Salty Dog or a Lupo Shrimp, or to stuff a Hopkins Diamond Jig into a Seven Strand Psychosquid, or on a double tandem rig to have a killie on one hook and a piece of squid and sand eel on the other hook.

5. If you are out looking for doormat flukes (8 lbs. and over) and are using light tackle make sure that you employ a shock leader from swivel to your lure.

6. If you latch onto a very large fluke you will meet with tremendous resistance and may think that you have a large skate or ray. At any rate, you will only be able to make "headway" with the fish when he releases his suction from the bottom. When he makes his move off the bottom this is when you go into action. You cannot pump and grind the biggies on light tackle. Your patience will be tested. My biggest fluke took almost an hour in bringing it to the net. It is not a bad idea to have a gaff ready for the fluke, who in a stunned condition, breaks off your line and for a split second lies on the surface.

7. Check your terminal tackle often looking for little nicks in your main line. There is nothing worse than losing a monster owing to frayed monofilament.

8. If you are fishing from an outboard skiff make sure that your motor or motors are out of the water. Time and time again I have seen large fluke wrap the line around the lower unit with a resulting pop and "goodby Francis". If you own a boat, make sure that the bottom of your boat is free from barnacles and major scratches that could hang and cut up your line. One reason why I enjoy fishing from my 13 ft. Boston Whaler is owed to the fact that I have tremendous maneuverability and the bottom is as smooth as a baby's rear end.

9. When fluke are hitting short or taking little nips of your bait, don't be afraid to open the bail and free spool line back to them. In brief, develop the drop back technique.

10. When you go over a hotspot cut down on your drifts and take careful note of where you are catching fluke. It is sheer stupidity to take long drifts when you are catching fluke in one spot. Matter of fact you might want to throw the anchor over the spot.

11. If you are using very light tackle don't use heavy sinkers of 4 to 6 ounces. If you are in a heavy rip with fast moving currents you will probably have to switch over to medium size bay rods and go with the heavier sinkers in order to hold bottom.

12. If your craft drifts too fast put a small sea anchor or drag a 2 or 4 gallon bucket from the bow. Remember you should be drifting with the current. Many light boats present a problem in this regard. There is nothing worse than fishing off the Fire Island Lighthouse with an outgoing tide and a strong southwest wind, and instead of going down the inlet your boat is drifting in the opposite direction towards the northeast. You are obviously not going in either the direction of where the fluke are or where you think they are located. Just remember surface drift from wind, on certain small boats, can be greater than current drift and this can present a problem.

13. Don't be afraid to get off the beaten path. Go up into many of the small deep drains that the Great South Bay contains. I have caught many good sized fluke in drains off Snake Hill Channel (east across from the old Wa Wa Yanda Club), Steamboat Channel, which is west of West Channel (see chart) and don't neglect those nice southwest to northeast drifts in the flats just east of the Captree Bridge. If you own a boat you certainly don't have to be "the fleet" all of the time. Think independently and do your own thing. "Keep book" on your fluke fishing. I have caught many nice sized fluke in 4 to 5 foot of water in the flats off Sexton, East Fire Island and West Fire Island. 14. Stay away from gingerbread lures. By this I mean fluke terminal tackle characterized by single, double and triple spinners that are placed immediately above the hook. For the most part these metallic spinning billboards do nothing for your maximum catch.

15. Keep your terminal tackle simple. Make up your own fluke rigs which should be nothing more than a 3 foot leader of 20 or 30 lb. test mono. To this snell 3/0, 4/0 or 5/0 hooks. For the Great South Bay, a 3/0 or 4/0 Sproat hook is fine. If you are planning optimistically in catching some doormats on and around our experimental reefs, (Fire Island Inshore and Fire Island Offshore), you probably will be better off with snelling 4/0 or 5/0 long shanked Carlisle or Kirby onto your 3 foot leader.

16. Don't neglect fishing the inshore reef area (experimental reef just west of Kismet) and the offshore Fire Island reef (2½ miles dead south of the Lighthouse). Both of these reefs are marked and at a given time will produce some very large fluke.

17. In your looking for fluke and checking out "F" areas do not spend too much time in any one place. Remember that fluke are a very predaceous species that look for something to eat. They do manage to move around throughout all tides, although I still have found the top of the incoming tide to be most productive.

18. Remember that from August to early October there are more big fluke around both in ocean and in bay areas so be ready. Explore "F" spots.

WEATHER

When the wind is out of the east or southeast and the Great South Bay is all riled up with white caps the fishing is the least. This is an old saying for the Great South Bay which I have found to have considerable truth. When you have an east wind of any speed, much of the flocculence and suspended materials in the eastern end of the bay moves to the Islip-Bablyon area. This produces what we call a very dirty bay in the West Channel, Range Channel, Farm Shoals and Fire Island Inlet ares.

TIME AND TIDES

With regards to time you will always do better in the early morning and late afternoons. As for tides, I personally prefer incoming tides going towards the top of the flood. However, I would not make a "federal case" out of tides. If there be any redeeming feature to fishing the incoming tide it is the fact that you get much cleaner water in which to fish. As one fluke fisherman said to me "Heh Doc, want to see a green killy with a green beard?".

SIZE OF FISH THAT YOU KEEP

Remember that any fluke that you are caught with under 14 inches is illegal and you will be fined. The temptation to keep these midgets can be great since we have so many of them. But be courageous and release them. Who knows? The one you release could develop into a world champion.

WHERE TO GO TO FISH

Party Boats or "Head Boats"—All you do is bring yourself, your rod and reel, some food and money. These boats can be found at Captree Boat Basin, Fire Island Dock in Babylon, N.Y. and along Merrick Rd. in Lindenhurst.

Rowboat Rentals— (boats and motors, boats and you supply the motor).

1. Babylon Fishing Station (Walter Schmidt) 23 Post Place, off Fire Island Avenue across from Augie's Bait and Tackle, Babylon, New York 669-9510.
2. Charlie's Fishing Station, 301 Bergen Avenue, West Babylon, New York M09-9552.
3. Young's Fishing Station, 85 Terry Street Sayville, New York 567-9765.
4. South Bay Fishing Station, Foot of Clyde Street, off Atlantic in West Sayville New York 589-2280.

Hi-Hook Fishing Station, Foot of S. Fire Island Avenue in Babylon New York, 669-1869.

WHERE YOU CAN BUY BAIT AND TACKLE

1. Augie's Bait and Tackle, 450 Fire Island Avenue in Babylon, New York, M09-9837.
2. Captree Boat Basin, Captree State Park, Babylon New York.
3. Charlie's Bait and Tackle, 175 E. Montauk Highway, Lindenhurst New York, TU4-2021.
4. Charlie's West Bait and Tackle, 555 Montauk Highway, Lindenhurst, New York 226-5335.
5. Duke's Bait and Tackle Shop, 53 West Montauk Highway, Lindenhurst, New York, 884-5023.
6. J.& R. Sport Center, Montauk Highway, Oakdale, New York 589-9749.
7. George Combs Bait and Tackle, 74 Merick Road, Amityville, New York 264-3525.
8. The Store in Oak Beach New York, 669-9676.

BOAT LAUNCHING RAMPS

1. Hecksher State Park. Go down Hechsher Spur off Sunrise Highway or Montauk Highway. Excellent ramp and facilities for fishing eastern end of our area. Small fee to L.I. State Park Commission.
2. West Islip Boat ramp. Down by Good Samaritan Hospital, West Islip, New York. Town of Islip residency needed.
3. Village of Lendenhurst Public Ramp. Turn south by A & W Rootbeer, Merrick Road, Lindenhurst, New York. Town of Babylon residents only.
4. Copaigue Public Ramp. Randell Park, Copiague, New York.

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Bunker Dunkin' Bass

by Ron Onorato

Many articles have appeared recently which dealt with plug making, catching bass on bucktails and jigs, trolling etc. While I truly enjoy catching stripers on artificials, it is the live bait that often catches the most and largest bass of the season.

School fish are more apt to hit lures than their bigger brothers, but with fish over 15 pounds, I would give live bait the edge. Although there are many types of live bait that are used for big bass, when someone mentions live bait I think of bunkers and eels.

Since fishing for trophy stripers with eels and bunkers is an exciting science, the first part of this article will deal strictly with live lining bunkers.

Live lining bunkers simply means inserting a hook somewhere in a live mossbunker and letting the rigged bait swim somewhere where huge bass are known to hang out until that huge bass decides to eat the bunker.

The first step in a bunker fishing trip is the acquisition of the bait. There are two ways that this can be accomplished. If you fish the North Jersey area, you can purchase live bunkers from the pound nets in the area.

The second and more common way is to snag your bait. When bunkers school up they flap on the surface of the water and are easy to detect. If the water is very calm, then you often see ripples on the surface.

A simple snagging rig consists of a 2 ounce drail with a 4/0 treble hook snapped on to the clip. When the bunker school is located, you ease the boat upwind of the drift and cast into the school. You whip the rod after letting the snagger sink a few feet.

If the school is sizable, you should have enough after several casts. Keep only the bunkers that are not badly injured. A 24 gallon plastic trash container is your best bet for holding the bait. Keep about a dozen healthy pieces and change the water frequently. A portable aerator is very helpful in maintaining healthy baits.

Tackle suitable for bunker fishing will vary according to the type of areas that you fish in. If you're fishing around a rocky area the tackle will be heavier than if you are fishing a clean area, say Sandy Hook where there are no rocks or obstructions.

I like to use the Penn Squidder with 20 pound mono and fairly light boat rod for most types of bunker fishing. I will go to 30 pound line if there is a chance of breaking off big fish around rocks, and use a heavier rod to try to stop that initial run of the fish.

I have found that a 3/0 treble (extra strong) inserted in front of the dorsal fin is the best way to hook the bunker. This allows no restriction on the bunker's breathing. When you lip hook a bait as many do, it often impedes the bunker's breathing.

Use a three foot leader of 40 lb. mono ahead of the treble and then connect the terminal end of the line to the leader with a 60 lb. swivel. This prevents line twist.

How to fish the bunker is not really difficult. The important thing to remember in this type of fishing is patience is the key to success. You may fish for hours on end before you get the first runoff, so stick with it.

The actual fishing technique is fairly simple. You lower the live bait into the water and start peeling off line. Give the bait plenty of line and let him roam around. Keep the reel in free spool at all times and let the fish move around at will. After you have a couple of hundred feet of line out, bring the bunker in slowly and start the whole thing over again.

One indication of bass in the region is if the bunker is constantly on the surface. This usually means that a fish has driven the bait up to the top and is worrying him. Another sign to look for is when the bunker starts swimming erratically and makes quick runs. This is a sure sign a fish is after him. Some of the pros can tell when bass are around simply by the action of the bunker. This comes only after years of fishing.

There is no mistaking when a big bass grabs a bunker. You may have the bass take the bunker a number of ways. Usually there is a jolt when the bass first grabs the live bunker. He will make a short run and turn the bait in his mouth. A bass usually takes the bait tail first or will grab it by the stomach. All this takes a few seconds. This is where most fishermen blow their chance. They let the fish run for just a second and then try to hit the fish. Usually all they get back is an empty hook or a scaled bunker.

It takes a while to accomplish, but you have to let the bass eat the bait good. It's hard to watch line flying off the spool and not do anything, but resist the temptation to hit early. Some use a count of 5 before they engage the reel. Whatever manner you chose, it is better to hit later than quicker.

(Continued on page 46)

George Oliver shows small fish taken on live bunker.

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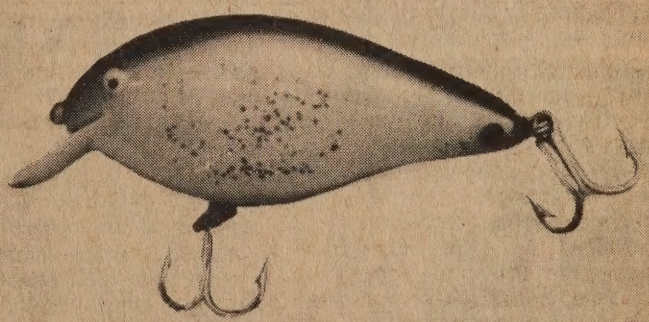

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

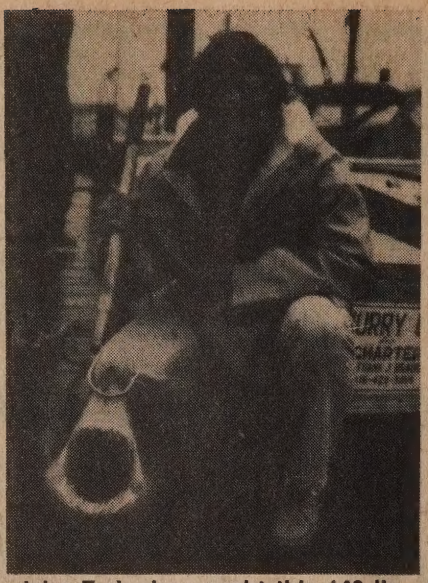
MONTAUK

Johnny Keller of the **Lake Montauk Marina** said that fluking has been red hot around buoy 5. The fish are nice sizes, running 3 to 5 lbs. Squid strips, fluke belly or sand eel baits are all producing on both tides. Bluefishing has been good around the Submarine Buoy with many up to 10 to 12 pounds. Porgies are very good around the south side of the Point near the Radar Station. Fish are large, up to 4 lbs. and small boats are bringing in 100 to 200 pounds. A few seabass are also mixed in with the catch. The offshore scene was excellent until the weather soured and few boats have been able to get out.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the new **Viking Skipper II** called to say that the porgy fishing has been improving steadily. On Sunday 4 people had over 100 fish each and Ed Bryan was high hook with 137 fish. Seabass, blacks, flounder and fluke were also mixed in with the catch. The pool fish is usually a porgy of 3½ pounds or better. The new sailing time for the **Viking Skipper** is 5:30 A.M. DAILY.

The **Capt. Spider** has been making good catches of fluke in the Midway Rips on both tides. The pool is usually taken by a 7 or 8 pound doormat. All

Brian Braun of Elmont with two cod, 57½ and 51 lbs. he caught while aboard the "Peconic Queen II."



John Feduniec caught this 140 lb. Mako shark while fishing aboard the charterboat "Hurry Up" from Montauk with Capt. Frank J. Braddick.

the short fish seem to have left the area and the fluke are now averaging 2 to 3 pounds. Jumbo porgies and large seabass are also mixed in with the fluke.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helen II** said that fluking has been fantastic at the Midway Rips and North Rips. There is only a 10 percent ratio of throwbacks, and the pooler is 8 or 10 pounds a trip. The fish are at both places during both tides depending on the direction of the wind.

Codfishing at Cox's Ledge has been very good for the last two weeks, according to Capt. Lester Behan of the **Peconic Queen II**. The fish are averaging about 20 lbs. and there are plenty of larger fish 25 to 40 pounds mixed in. The **Peconic Queen** is now making a night run for giant bluefish. See her ad for further details.

Capt. Murray Homelsky of the charterboat **Cherokee** reports great offshore shark fishing. During this week's many shark trips the Captain reported boating many blue sharks and fighting and boating several makos. Saturday's two makos were fought on a 4/0 rod and reel and took 1 hour and 10 minutes and 1 hour and 30 minutes respectively to bring to gaff.

Capt. Frank Braddick of the **Hurry Up** had a shark charter Saturday and they scored with a 140 pound mako shark. Blue sharks have seemed to move further east with plenty of brown sharks filling the gap.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie II** called to say that on Saturday with a party of 2 caught 71 weakfish from 4 to 7 pounds, 4 striped bass 11 to 13 lbs. and 55 fluke from 2 to 4 lbs., all on bucktails off Rocky Point Cove.

PROMISED LAND

Despite Saturday's rain the porgy fishing remained excellent at can number 3, according to Art Brand of the **Promised Land Fishing Station.** Fish are good size and it is a bushel per man or better average catch. Weakfish are still very good off Goff Point and there are more bluefish mixed in. Large fluke are still being taken off Hicks and Cartwright Islands.

Norman and Aurelia Aikman of Brooklyn and Alma Walker of Far Rockaway with about 4½ bushels of porgies caught off Hicks Island on the 4th of July. Photo courtesy of Promised Land Fishing Station.

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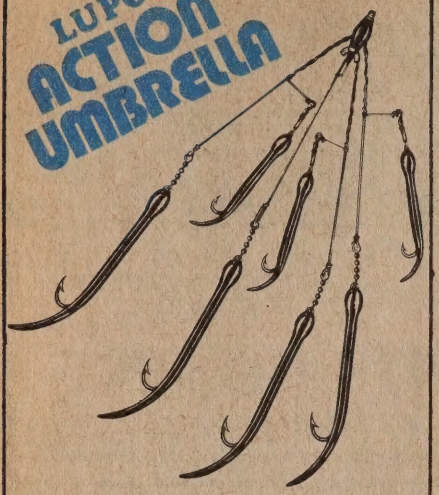

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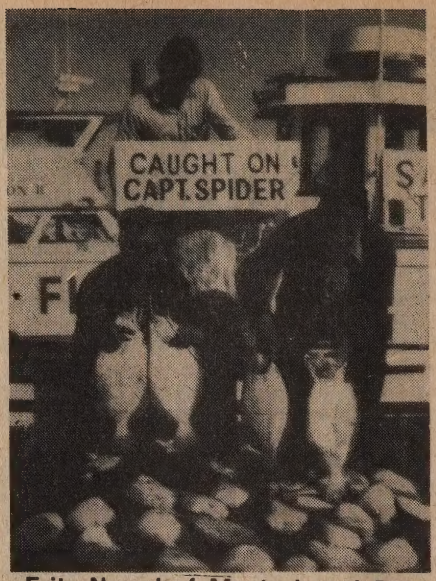


Fritz Nessel of Montauk and Bill Bell of Bayside with their fine catch of fluke aboard the Capt. Spider on a recent trip.

HAMPTON BAYS

Chrisie DiCastri, wife of Ted DiCastri, owner of **Three Aces Bait and Tackle** in Hampton Bays hooked and landed a 166 lb. swordfish, fishing southeast of Shinnecock Inlet aboard the **Scamp III**, trolling a whole squid.

MORICHES BAY

Moriches Bait and Tackle reports plenty of fluke still in Moriches Inlet vicinity but loads of small fish predominate the catches. Flounder are still sprinkled throughout the bay in the deeper holes. A 37 pound bass weighed in during the week that was taken from the surf. Small bluefish of 1 to 3 lbs. are all over the bay and are being taken on small lures cast from boats.

Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station reported fluke in the New Cut are mostly good size and there are plenty of fish by the Coast Guard Station and buoys 35 and 36. The fish are taking killies or sand eel bait, one on a hook without squid, on all tides. Bluefish are plentiful outside the inlet and are being taken trolling.

Larry Dallaire of **L & M Marine** said that fluking has been very good in the channel between buoys 38 and 39 and the fish are getting larger with several up to 4 lbs. Killies or sandeels are producing best on the incoming tide. The weekend was wiped out weather wise, but there has been a definite improvement in the size of the fish.

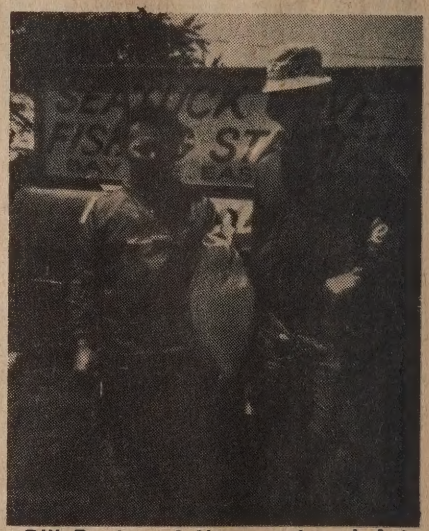
Carol Masi took her first bass, a 31½ pounder on July 11, fishing a live bunker at buoy 35 at 6 a.m. Husband Anthony nailed a 23 pounder.

MASTIC BEACH

Keenan's Fishing Station reports fluke on shinners and sand eels between buoys 26-28 on all moving tides, with a 50 percent keeper ratio. Crabs are great from buoy 17 to the bridge. Weaks are at the whole at buoy 17 on shrimp jigs, tipped with squid, jigged. These are 3 pound class fish and best results are early morning hours before boat traffic.

WEST SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports the lousy weather on the weekend result-



Bill Regina of Nesconset and Art Holgerson of Holbrook with a 4 lb. 12 oz. fluke caught out of the Seatuck Cove Marina at buoy 42 on sand eels and squid.

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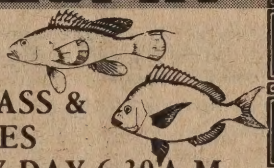

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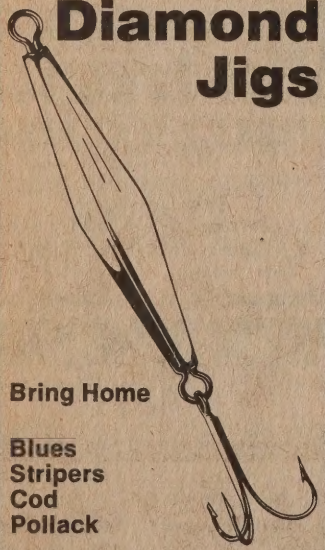
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"Sweet Sixteen" Senior Citizen, Georga Houston of Patchogue, catches a nice 6 lb. fluke off Promised Land Fishing Station, amagansett N.Y. Subscriber Club Photo.

ed in poor fishing, though some private boats fishing off Brown's River up to 1 mile southwest of the marker buoys brought in weaks up to 3 pounds on shrimp jigs and Mr. Twisters. Best on either change of tide.

Dennis at **South Bay Fishing Station** had two boats out on Saturday in the rather ugly weather and a few weaks were picked up on squid strips baited onto a shrimp jig. Crabbing is picking up well along the bulkheads and pilings. Dennis expects fishing to really pick up after these storms leave. Weakfish, fluke, small blues and eels are out there and will be waiting hungrily for your baits once the rain stops and the winds die. He expects a good blowfish run this year, since there was so many blowfish fry in last years waters.

CAPTREE

The charterboat **Lady Ann** continues to experience excellent Bluefishing at Monster Ledge, a 3 hour and 15 minute run from the dock that is well worth it for the results. On Friday night 14 men had close to 200 blues 4 to 10 pounds. Fluke were poor over the weekend largely due to the poor weather conditions. Saturday was the better of the two days, and 75 fluke were taken with 6 over 5 lbs. showing a definite increase in the size and quality of the fish. Best areas are the new cut of Fire Island Inlet and drifting on the south side of the inlet from the bridge to the mouth of the inlet.

The **Capt. Ben Litwin** also reported a lot of throwbacks but many fish up to 5 lbs. despite the brutal weather. Fishing has been generally slow. Best area has been in front of the Coast Guard Station for the larger fish.

The poor weather was confirmed by the **Capt. Joseph Fleet**. Bluefish day and night has been spectacular and the fish are running 7-10 lbs. Monster Ledgs is the hotspot, but fish are often located in closer to shore on the way out with the recorder. Fluke have been very, very good when the weather cooperates, and there are plenty of nice fish amongst the small and the percent of keepers is steadily increasing. The poolfish this week was a healthy 6½ pounds, and the best area has been drifting between the inlet and the Lighthouse.

Bill Loesch called to tell us that the surf scene at Democrat Point remains to be on the poor side. There is still an over-abundance of baitfish in the water. Earlier in the week blues and bass were taken in the evening by a few fishermen and Saturday morning one angler off to himself managed to beach about 25 weakfish 6 to 8 lbs. and 3 striped bass on surface plugs without anyone seeing him.

Jack Davis of the **Squaw Island Fishing Club** called to tell us that Joe Koestner aboard the **Joe Kool** took a 2 23 lb. bass on a surgical tube inside the Fire Island Inlet on Saturday morning. Tony Lozito on the **Andiamo** took a dozen bluefish up to 10 lbs. on feathers southeast of Fire Island Inlet.

The Captree Bait Station reports that weather permitting there are still fluke off all the docks and piers on sand eels and killies on moving water. Some weakfish are being taken off Oakbeach on the Tri-Fin Whiptail and on squid.

Bill Loesch of Deer Park with a 34 lb. 4 oz. bass he took from the surf with a live eel at Democrat Point on June 29th. Photo courtest of The Store.

OAKBEACH

Bill at **the Store** commented on the lousy weather though it seemed to cause a lot of blues to be feeding on top at the mouth of the inlet and around the buoys. However, no one could set sail to chase them. Some stripers are being chummed at the Moses Bridge in the 6-8 pound class. Also weaks at the Sore Thumb at high tide. Fluking is still good in the inlet and on the other side, weather permitting. Blueclaws maybe had in the lee of Oak Island. 3-4 pound trigger fish, a tropical species have been taken on clam baits at the inlet side by anglers fishing for blackfish in rocky areas. Very slow for surf casters on bass. A very few are being taken on casted eels.

BABYLON

Bablyon Fishing Station reports fluke in Snake Hill Channel on sand eels, killies, and killie/squid on all moving water. Weakfish west of the Captree Bridge in the East/West Channel. Small snappers are in the cannals for the kids.

Augie's Bait and Tackle had little to report due to the snotty weather all week and weekend although Mrs. A. did tell us that 7 football tuna about 14 lbs. were taken on Saturday by an offshore troller and that there are snappers at the town dock. Once the wind and rain leave us look for fluke at Steamboat Channel. 4 schoolie bass were taken by friend Joe between the hours of 4 and 6 a.m. on Sunday at a secret area of his (The Bridge?) Blues have been pulled out of 85 feet of water during the week.

John Roe of Shelter Island with a swordfish which weighed in at 237½ lbs. Photo courtest of Island Marine Taxidermy.

Mrs. Ruby Montford of Hartford, Conn. was the pool winner this Sunday, July 8th with a 13 lb. blue caught aboard the "Hel-Cat" who are still offering a full day trip as they were in Montauk.

LINDENHURST

Duke's Tackle Shop reports the blue fish action was very good offshore until the storm hit. Friday and Saturday mornings saw bluefish from the inlet through 70 feet of water for trollers and chummers. The party boat fishing at night was spectacular. Fluking is about the same with many throwbacks and enough keepers to make it interesting in Fire Island Inlet, Snake Hill Channel and West Channel off the Lighthouse. Blueclaws are great at the Wellwood avenue dock, and once the weather clears fishing should return to status quo or even better.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports fluke have been caught at Fort Neck Point and Goose Creek using live killies and sand eels. Weakfishing is very good at Unqua Point using sand worms or Hopkins. Kingfish and porgies have been showing up with the fluke at Zachs Bay. Blues and striped bass are being taken on amber and red Sekora rigs offshore.

SEAFORD

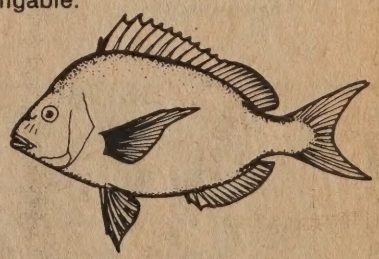
Salice Boat Basin had a few boats out over the weekend and these diehards managed to pull some fluke from 4 Corners through the State Channel on squid and killies and sand eels. Some weakfish were taken also off Florence Beach. The second and third Wantagh bridges are producing bass for chummers. Charlie Salice is happy to announce that he is now a dealer for Honda outboards. It is supposed to be a tough, economical engine, so if you are looking for something in the 7½ horse power range stop in and see Charlie.

Wanser's Bait and Tackle reports weakfish at the 3rd Wantagh Bridge on a whole sand worm fished 3 feet off the bottom. These are 4-6 lb. fish, fished one hour on each side of the slack. Fluke are best at Squaw Island and 4 Corners on sand eels. The crabbing is good at the bulkheads and flats, but no news on bass to speak of.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** called to say that John DiNeno on the **Mah Jong** and 2 pals caught an 80 pound tuna and 7 other tuna, 150 degrees out of Jones Inlet 20-22 miles offshore on feathers, Saturday. They busted a big one off, as well. Fluking can only be rated fair, with a lot of midgets. Try weakfish at the Meadowbrook Bridge with a whole sand worm on a hi hook.

Larry Korn, with a 16 inch fluke won the monthly big fish contest held by SHULTZ SPORTING GOODS, Freeport for the month of June. The prize was a Garcia Spinning Reel, and only fish caught at Cowmeadow Park are eligable.



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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

Ralph Turchiano, Ralph Monaco and Bob Baio all of Heads Up Hair Design in Plainview with the help of Capt. R. Schlesinger on his 31 ft. boat the "Happy Hooker" caught this 395 lb., 10 ft. Dusky shark. The shark was caught out of Indian Cove Marina in Shinnecock in 140 ft. of water. Subscriber Club Photo.

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie Kessinger of the **Starstream II** reports very good bluefishing, with nights a little better than days. Saturday was great, says Richie, with mixed fish on the big size at the Acid Water vacinity. Fish are running 4-15 pounds. Sunday's poor weather made that day on the poor side, though 12 year old Peter Kessinger, Richie's son, hung 15 choppers using an Ava bananna.

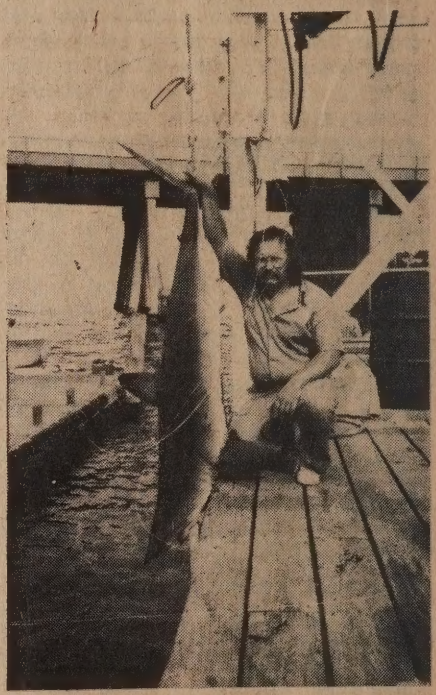
The **Aloma** has been doing a job on the sea bass, reports Capt. John Gormley, who is working the Rockaway reefs for these critters, up to 2½ lbs. Some fares are bagging 50 to 60 fish a trip, and double headers aren't uncommon. John is also working the Fire Island and other local reefs with good results. Some porgies and big fluke are also being taken along with the sea bass. The **Aloma II** is concentrating on the excellent fluking off Playland and some local wrecks and a new secret hot spot and has been taking good catches, fish going to 6 lbs. with squid/sand eel combos, and strip baits.

The **Capt. Al** reports red-hot blue action on Saturday with Sunday only fair, due to the sloppy weather. Thursday was a leap job too, with 40 blues as hi-hook. Friday was fiar, fish fat, sizes mixed. Days and nites seem to be about equal.

Capt. Johnny A's **Miss Freeport** is having good fluking in the inlet, with fish larger now and about 75 percent being keepers, averaging 10 per man. The J1 buoy is also producing south of the inlet.

Capt. Dick Hall of the open boat **Capt. Hall** reports very good bluefishing Wednesday through Saturday. Fish were 3-12 pounds at the Acid Stain. Sundays snotty weather made that day a bummer.

Capt. Lou Di Blasio, the weathered veteran of the canal, on his **Capt. Lou II**, continues with good fluke fishing at his pet sports along with certain spots at Jones Inlet and State Channel. Lots of good keepers along with the midgets, weather permitting.



Ken Batyczak of Brooklyn with his first Mako which weighed 138 lbs. and was caught at the HA buoy aboard the "Kim". Many other Blue sharks were tagged and released.

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Anthony Holmes took this 12 pound doormat fluke drifting a killie and pork rind at buoy 18 where Long Creek, Reynold Channel and Jones Inlet converge. L.I.F. Subscriber Club Photo.

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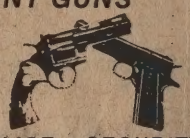

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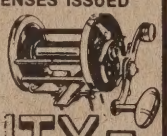

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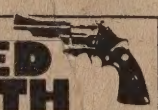

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This 147 lb. Mako and 5 Dusky Sharks were caught S.E., 135 degrees of Jones Inlet aboard the Marie III by Peter Mantia of Garden City Park. Along with the sharks many jumbo blues were caught. Subscriber Club Photo.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports that about 1 out of 5 fluke these days is keeper size. Best spots are east of the Meadowbrook BRIDGE* Haunts Creek and off the Jones Beach piers. One boat went out Sunday and had 6 keeper fluke fishing in the State Channel over a bar. A 6 pound weak was taken on Thursday in Swift Creek on a killie/squid bait.

Capt. Sy Karlin (light tackle specialist) of the **Blue Fin** reports that his Wednesday light tackle trip was great with 78 bluefish taken on both light and regular tackle. Light tackle anglers fished the stern and conventional fished the bow. With Sy and 2 mates working the deck, all worked smoothly. This was South of the Acid, 190 degrees out of Jones. Largest on

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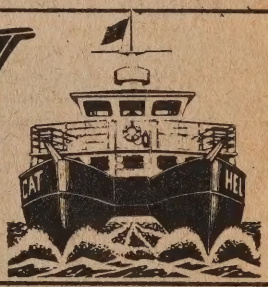

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Matthew Bellantoni, 12, hefts a 35 lb. 8 oz. striper while fishing in the Long Island Sound off Conn. The fish was taken on mackerel on 6/19/75. Subscriber Club Photo.

light tackle (to 12 pound test) was Gary Schacher of upstate N.Y. and be boated his in 10 minutes. 40 percent of the blues were on light stuff, 60 percent on conventional. The July 23 trip is booked solid. Next available openings are for the 8-6 trip. Call the **Blue Fin** for details and reservations.

POINT LOOKOUT

The **Brand X**, reports Capt. Jay Porter, is really loading up every day and night, on 4-10 lb. choppers at the S/E edge of Stain, also known as Monster Ledge. Pool fish are always in the low teens.

The **Marie III's** skipper, Andy Pollio reports blues, blues, blues, and BIG, all 8-15 lbs. fish, at Cholera, where Andy's been fishing all alone. THATS one of the trade secrets—get off by yourself.

A few hardy fishermen took out boats over this past weekend said Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station**. Those that did all came in with fluke and said the throwbacks were decreasing. It looks as if the fluke will be here till September. A few weaks were caught by those fishing for fluke in the inlet. Blue fish are still way out by tghe Acid Waters. At the town dock the snappers are being caught by the kids.

ISLAND PARK

Capt. Clem of the **Commodore** continues very good fluking off Playground and the Tin Can grounds, also offshore in 40 feet of water and at the Riis Park reefs. Fish are up to 5 lbs. Clem was weathered out on Sunday, as were many of the local boats.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Hennings Fishing Station reports continued good fluke fishing on Friday and Saturday. Sunday was practically a wash out. Although there are many small fluke a determined angler can come back with 110 or 12 good sized fluke. Small bluefish with some

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POINT LOOKOUT

Angler II
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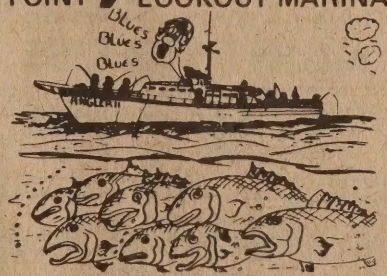

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weakfish to 6 lbs. mixed in have been moving in and out of the inlet. If you are there at the right time, they are taking lures cast to them. Some clam chumming has been done with striped bass being taken on and off.

Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the **Kim** reports the bassing showed all week for those laying bunker into the jetties along the south shore, but there were some at Breezy on bucktails and live bait, with Sheepshead Bay "shooters" getting the most, the smaller fish, on small live bunker.

Offshore, shark fishing has been Sooper-Dooper for the last 4 trips, where Ron tagged 53 shark and boated 7 makos between 150-225 lbs. One 250 hammerhead, the 1st of the season was also tagged. Largest was a 300 lb. blue shark which mate Bob Foley played midwife to, to the time of 41 pups, which were returned to the ocean. Lots of small pods of 40-80 lb. tuna N.W. of the H.A. in 140' water with 72 degrees on the **Dytek** indicating best shark/tuna temperature.

JAMAICA BAY

Nice crabs being taken at the North Channel Bridge said Mrs. Noehren of **Noehren's Fishing Station**. The bridge also has small snappers being taken on equally small spearing. For those in boats the bay has a nice body of fluke that are hitting all the usual baits. The sand eel and line killy seems best. Back at the bridge at night the anglers are snagging bunker and using them as bait. The blues that are caught were about 4 lbs.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Fluke continue to be the prime fish here said **Bay End Dock**. They are on the flats at Plum Beach, along the Rockaway Jety and off Coney Island. Sand eels and squid or fluke belly are best baits and the edges of the channel are the better spots. As far the tide try the last two hours of the incoming and last two of the outgoing.

Salvo's Bait and Tackle said the striped bass fishing is just fantastic in the Narrows . Trollers using umbrella rigs, spoons and large tubes are scorin very well on striped bass, blues and weaks. At the bridge foatings clam chumming continues to reap a good harvest of 3-8 lb striped bass. The sea wall from 86 St. to Coney Island is loaded with porgies. Snappers are being taken from the sea wall also.

Capt. Art Lino of the **Wahoo Iv** was fishing east/northeast of the Arunda wreck last week and slaughtered bluefish 6-15 lbs. with the assistance of ladled chum. The 5 man charter headed by Erwin Row bailed 75

choppers and were on their way home by 1 p.m.

Capt. Mike of the **Ranger V** reports the chopper action red hot both days and nights fishing the Acid waters except for Saturday and Sunday nights when the severe storms and winds cut things short. Some trips the fish were 3-6 lbs., other trips they were 7-15 lbs. Night trips seem to be a little bit better.

Capt. Fred Ardolino of the **Amberjack Iv** reports that except for Saturday night and Sunday's Windstorm, it has been just a slaughter on the blues, fish of mixed sizes, 3-16 pounds, 6 lbs. average. The night trips are best, but day trips are catching up fast as to size and quantity.

Capt. Huck's new **Helen H** reports that except for "stormy Sunday" he has had great bluefishing both day and night "Really fantastic fishing", northwest of Monster Ledgs. Fish are mixed sizes 3-15 pounds.

Big Mohawk II's captain Tony tells us that a charter from N.Y. Telephone was out Saturday and he put them onto very good blue action in the Immaculate area—all big fish 8-14 lbs. 25 men had 114 choppers, and on the Fulton Lounge Fishing Club's charter, 10 year old Florance Mathews caught a 180-200 lb. sea turtle. Tony wanted to take it into the Coney Island Aquariam, but the child insisted that the creature be set free. That's what was done. Besides the excellent blues, Tony's been having great fluking, S/E of the Shoal buoy, many fish 2-4 lbs, pool fish 6-7 lbs.

Frank Peritone, 16, of Bethpage with a 168¼ lb. swordfish. Photo courtesy of Island Marine Taxidermy.

The **Mary and Pilot II** are mohawking porgies at the Rockaway reefs.

Capt. Joe of the **Blue Sea II** says the bluefishing is great, from the Aronda to the Acid Stain and he is bagging fish 4-18 pounds, 15 to 25 blues a man. Saturday was a slaughter, says Joe, "Fish were flying."

Fluke hunter, Capt, Jim of the **Hi-Hook** told me that his fluking continues excellent. On Friday, he put his passengers into 23 fluke 6½ to 7 pounds. On Saturday, into 18 fluke that were 7 pounds. Along with these jumbos, were many 2-3 pounders. Very few returns. Jim says a prime

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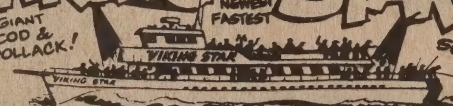

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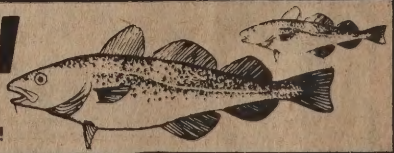

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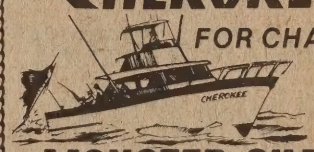

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STATEN ISLAND

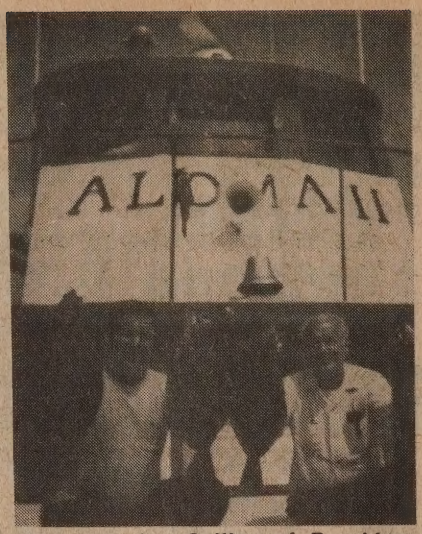
Santo's Sport Shop reports that Penny Beach has been a slow pick on striped bass. A more productive spot is the rock jetty in front of Mount Loretta. Use worms at both places. Fluke fishing is holding its own from Fort Wadsworth to Tottenville. They are hitting all baits but sand eels seem best. The outgoing tide at South Beach and Berger Avenue storm sewer has produced blues on cut bait to 13½ lbs. The last two hours of the outgoing tide is best. Lenny, his brother Jim and Larry Nattlandon Sunday afternoon boated 13 out of 25 hookups while drifting sand worms for weakfish. They were about ½ mile off Mount Loretta between buoys 35 and 39. Other good spots are buoy 4 to the Old Home dock at Annadale and buoys 4 and 6 in the Chapel Hill Channel. The Chapel Hill channel fish are bigger at 7 and 8 lbs. and take sand worms or trolled Bingle Banana. Black first choice and green second. Off Nortons Point jumbo blues are taking cut bait or jigged bucktails and diamond jigs. They also hit the trolled Bingle Banana.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Capt. Jerry Wren of the **Mighty Mouse** had the Blue Anglers of Jamaica, Queens out on Saturday, ant the 16 anglers caught 800 lbs. of porgies. Wow! And on Sunday, Jerry had a three man charter out and again did a leap job on the porgies, 600 lbs. for 3 men. This was off the Greenlawn at Gardiner's Island on skimmer clam. Important, you must use bunker chum in a pot. Jerry described the action as a "hernia job".

Art White's Bait Shop reports that despite the windy weekend most of the boats did well on weakfish at Pipes Cove or porgies at Green Hill. Art said the Whileric had so many porgies they didn't know what to do with them. The deep water at Green Hill still has a fair pick of fluke. The Sound has plenty of porgies especially Petty's Bight where there are blacks also. Plum Gut continues to yield stripers of big proportions.



Ken and Joe Collins of Brooklyn with their catch of fluke and seabass which weighed (left to right) 6½, 5½, 4¼, and 3¾ lb. while aboard the "Aloma II".

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports good porgy fishing at buoy 17 and off the Greenlawns. Although there are not many weaks, the weakfishermen can try for them at Louies Beach or off Greenlawns using squid.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports plenty of porgies on Saturday and earlier in the week. They range from buoys 22 to 32. A few weaks are being taken on sand worms and squid. The spots are South Race, Rose Grove and buoy 4.

JAMESPORT

Frank at **Jamesport Bait and Tackle** said the porgies are in the bay and very good in the Sound. The weakfishing has declined in the bay. In the Sound east of the Mattituck Inlet some big 4 and 5 pound weaks have been hitting squid.

WADING RIVER

Despite the poor weather over the weekend the fishing held up pretty good, according to the **Wildwood Deli**. Sand worms seem to be the best bait for both the porgies and striped bass. The porgies are being taken in good quantities both from the beach or boat.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports good gorgy fishing from Miller Place to Rocky Point. They are about ¼ mile off the beach. Blue fish trolling is spotty. Striped bass are being caught in the back of the harbor. The porgy fishermen are still picking up fluke.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reports good porgy fishing at Old Field Point and there are some inside the harbor all being taken on worms. The blackfish at Old Field Point have moved into deeper water and are taken best on green crabs. Snapper blues are being trolled on spoons from Old Field to Mound Sinai Harbor. They are also inside the harbor and taking poppers. Striped bass fishing is an up and down proposition. Try trolling worms inside Conscience Bay or along th east side of the harbor. Fluke are being taken on Mount Misery shoal and in the inlet.

NORTHPORT

Fishing was show over the weekend according to Pete at **Greenlawn Sport Shop.** Scattered small blues took an ocassional plug and were trolled on surge lures in and around the Northport Bay area. Knowledgeable anglers took some weakfish at Duck Island. Try a line killy or a small bucktail and squid.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don Constantin said the **Ever Ready Fleet** has been having a fantastic week. Bary Bond of N.Y.C. was high hook on one trip with 16 school sized blues. These were picked up off the Lilco loading platform. Capt. Don said his summer program starts this Thursday and to see his ad for more information.

Peg Hawkins, wife of Huntington bass sharpie Rick Hawkins, holds the 46 lb. striped bass she took on a live bunker in Huntington Inlet. The fish was weighed in at Four Winds Bait and Tackle.

Pretty good striped bass on live bunker says George at **Four Winds Takcle.** There has been large run of bass at Huntinton Harbor entrance. Peggy Hawkins took a 45½ pound striped bass there on live bunker. Eatons Neck also yielded a big bass on live bunker to Eugene Mayer. His was 42 ½ pounds. Marshall Field and Target Rock are holding their own. Bluefish are under the scattered schools of bunker. A few weakfish are at Lloyd Point and the deep hole at Centerport. Try worms. Big porgies are in the Sound.

PORT WASHINGTON

Moreland's Bait and Tackle reports bluefish taking bunker chunks and trolled tubes in Hempstead Harbor. Large striped bass are being taken on live bunker. Don't neglect the good fishing for bass to be had using worms. Some porgies are at Mattinecock.

CITY ISLAND

John Palmieri of **John's Gun and Tackle** in the Bronx said line bunker fishing for striped bass is picking up. Tony Franz took a 43 pounder at Mamaroneck and his buddy had one of 20 lbs. There are lots of porgies around. Blue fish are taking chunk bait or being trolled at Rye and Hempstead Harbor.

Joe Burck called to inform us that a 34½ lb. striper was taken on July 2nd north of Harts Island on a mackerel strip by Bronx resident Mike Widing. Also Tony Mazzela of City Island on July 5th at the north end of Harts Island hung a 44 lb. striper on a live bunker. Joe says that there are lots of 20 pound class fish around, and that Eastchester Bay is loaded with bunker.

NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

Blues to 3 pounds, weakfish to 8 pounds and an occasional striped bass are keeping shore and boat anglers happy in the Staten Island—Verranzano area.

Sand Hook fishermen are producint big bass on live bunker and bunker chunks close in shore. Trollers are also scoring well on green tubes. Bluefish are getting bigger and better at the Acid Water and Klondike. The beach from Sandy Hook to Long Beach has produced bass and blues on biat and plugs. There are fluke everywhere for drifters and beach fishermen.

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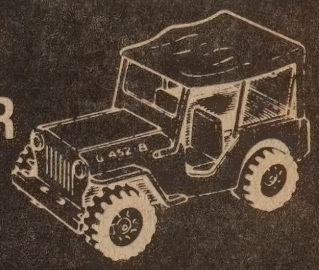

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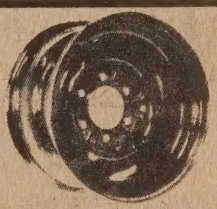

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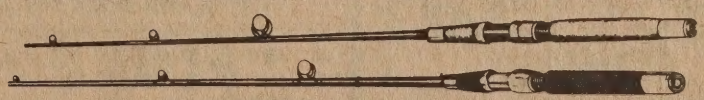

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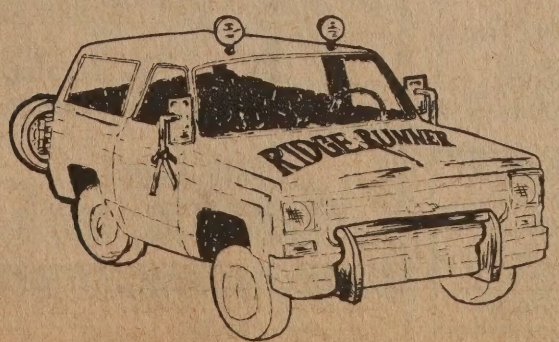

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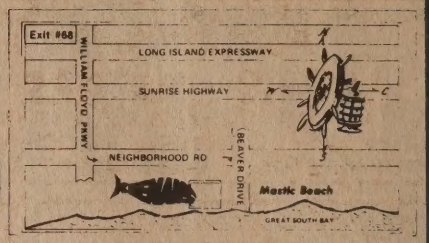

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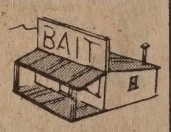

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NOW AVAILABLE - The ultimate FLUKE KILLER RIG - Deadly, double hook design, long the secret weapon of the "pros". You'll hook more and lose fewer fish, since fluke can't avoid tail hook. Each rig hand tied, finest materials. 3 rigs, $3, includes FREE instruction. Send ck. of M.O. to P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpk. Merrick, N.Y. 11566 - (Pays for itself in fluke dinners).

NEW IMPROVED Tandem Hook Fluke Rig! Latest refinement of a "swinging hook" to this popular fluke killer allows you to adjust the tandem hooks to the length of your strip bait or sand eel. Keeps your bait perfectly straight and natural looking while it puts a hook where strip baits are normally bitten off by fluke. Send $3 for 3 prototype rigs and directions on how to tie your own to avoid paying this ridiculous price to: Scott Simons, 152 Edmunton Drive, Apt. 16D, North Babylon, N.Y. 11703.

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FLUKE IN THE SURF
(Continued from page 7.)

be waiting to make a dent in that percentage behavior.

The best beach fluke fishing can be had on the south shore, but eastern and north shore spots may be worth a try. Of course it's no secret that Montauk fluking is sensational. And although far and away the best catches are taken from a boat. There are plenty of fluke available to surfmen from Shagwong to the inlet jetties especially during the early part of the season from mid-June to mid-July.

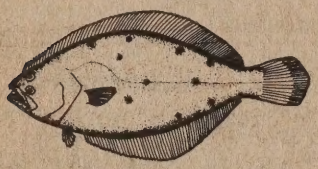
Orient Point beaches sometimes yield nice catches of fluke, but they are usually just a little too far off the beach for us.

Most of the north shore harbors and sandy coves are definitely worth fishing. The smaller harbors with fast currents are best, such as Stony Brook, Mount Sinai, and Mattituck. These harbors have been dredged and sand bars stand guard at their mouths. The currents are good on both tides.

Long Island's north shore is a continuous alternation of rocky points

and sandy coves. Although the tide usually moves poorly in these coves they are natural bait traps especially for sandeels which are more abundant now in the sound than in six to eight years at least. These coves are shallow, furthermore, the fluke find easy pickin's reaming the flats chasing the baitfish schools. If bass and blues are waiting where the water dips off sharply, then the sandeels may stick close to the beach and the fluke will cluster right offshore behind them.

Part I has been an introduction to fluke fishing from the beach on Long Island. Next week, in part II, I'll discuss how to fish for these flatties.



BUNKER DUNKIN' BASS
(Continued from page 20.)

After you feel the initial pickup and you think the bass has given you a long enough run, put the reel, which was in free spool, into gear and lean back on the rod, heavy. This will drive the hook home. One important thing to remember is to check the drag setting on the reel. Make sure it is not too tight or jammed up. When you hang a decent fish something has to give, and if your drag is not adjusted, pop goes the line or your rod will snap somewhere.

On certain occasions, a bass will come right up to the surface to take the bunker. First the bunker starts having fits at the end of the line. Usually a washtub size swirl follows and if you're lucky, the runoff comes. Sometimes the fish will swirl under the bunker for minutes and not take it. Last May off Monmouth Beach I had a large bass hit my bunker on the surface no fewer than ten times and not take the bait. When I finally brought the dead bunker in, every scale on the bait was gone. I must have added a couple of dozen gray hairs to my head after that episode. I put on another bunker and had a pickup no fewer than 10 feet from the boat. I let him run and socked it to him. I put the gaff into a 49 pound fish. The same fish that had knocked the hell out of the first bunker? Who knows?

CONNECTICUT SCENE

Good porgy catches in the Mamoroneck area. Blues are spotty but there is plenty of bait (bunker) throughout the area. Good numbers of bass are being caught and everyone says their at Scotch Caps. Most on bunker pluggers are scoring, too. There are a couple of schools of weakfish moving around and plenty of snappers.

There are lots of blues in the harbors around Rye. Fish to 18 pounds are taking cut baits on the bottom. The bass that are around show no preference for bait or plugs. Fluke and weakfish in the channel, plenty of snappers here too.

Blues from 10 to 13 pounds were under the bunker schools in the Greenich area. Plenty of good size porgies and some fluke for the bottom fisherman. Bass are spotty but don't give up.

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TIDE TABLES

ON →	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
DAY	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
7/17 THURSDAY	3:14	3:55	5:07	5:36	7:30	7:56	6:53	7:19
7/18 FRIDAY	4:19	4:57	6:11	6:35	8:41	9:02	7:56	8:20
7/19 SATURDAY	5:25	5:55	7:12	7:30	9:40	9:58	8:57	9:18
7/20 SUNDAY	6:23	6:47	8:05	8:20	10:35	10:51	9:53	10:09
7/21 MONDAY	7:14	7:33	8:53	9:05	11:23	11:37	10:45	10:59
7/22 TUESDAY	7:59	8:15	9:35	9:48	—	12:06	11:28	11:42
7/23 WEDNESDAY	8:41	8:55	10:17	10:30	12:19	12:47	—	12:10
7/24 THURSDAY	9:20	9:33	10:58	11:06	12:54	1:20	12:25	12:51

SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Inlet & Dem. Pt.	−0 38
Coast Giard Sta.	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Pkwy. Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 00
Beach Ch. (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet −0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
7/17	12:55	**6:66**	12:45	**7:20**
7/18	1:05	**7:45**	1:35	**8:10**
7/19	1:55	**8:35**	2:25	**9:00**
7/20	2:45	**9:25**	3:15	**10:00**
7/21	3:35	**10:15**	4:15	**10:40**
7/22	4:25	**11:00**	4:55	**11:30**
7/23	5:10	**11:45**	5:45	—
7/24	5:55	**12:10**	6:25	**12:35**

PHASES OF THE MOON

7-8	7-15	7-23	7-31
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

SUNRISE/SUNSET

7-6	5:37	8:32
7-12	5:40	8:30
7-18	5:45	8:27
7-24	5:50	8:22

ISLAND MARINE TAXIDERMY STUDIOS

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*WHITE MARLIN • MAKO • STRIPED BASS
Caught On Long Island **FREE!**

* The Second Largest of Above Species AT HALF PRICE!

* The Third Largest of Above Species AT 1/3 OFF!

NO ENTRY FEE! Anyone Can Win! Anyone Can Enter!

Have your fish weighed at our studio or call for listing of official weigh station in your area.

Big Fish Contest!

GUARANTEED LIFE TIME MOUNTING

Dates of Contest:

1) White Marlin—July 1 to August 31
*2) Mako Shark—June 1 to September 31
3)Striped Bass—June 1 to October 31

**Mako winners will receive ½ mount including side fin*

We Also Offer--

FREE—Pick Up & Delivery—Anywhere on Long Island of any fish you cannot easily bring to our studio.

Call Our Studio & We Will--

- Meet you at dockside to pick up fish—7 days a week
- Go to any marina or come to your home to pick up fish
- Make any suitable arrangements necessary to make mounting of your fish a pleasure

Call Our Studio & We Will--

- Pick up and deliver *Free* any damaged, previously mounted fish you may want repaired

Present Contest Leaders:

MAKO
#1 Al Ristori, 405 lbs., Garcia Corp.
#2 Ken Bachmann, 355 lbs., Mako Marina
#3 Mark Tesser, 310 lbs., Bayshore Mako

BASS
#1 Frank Figuero, 52.8, Merrick Marine
#2 Buddy Holmes, 51.10, Merrick Marine
#3 Joe Angevine, 50 lbs., Greenport

MARLIN
#1 Red Enoksen, 68 lbs., Oakdale Sports
#2 None Weighed
#3 None Weighed

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